

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 9-10, 1990

WARREN POL

CHAIRMAN

**ROCKEFELLER REFUGE
GRAND CHENIER, LOUISIANA**

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
ROCKEFELLER REFUGE
GRAND CHENIER, LOUISIANA
AUGUST 9-10, 1990

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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**

AUGUST 9-10, 1990

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Thursday, August 9, 1990

Houston Foret
Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Secretary Van Sickie was not present. Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis presided in her place.

Friday, August 10, 1990

Houston Foret
Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Secretary Van Sickie was not present. Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis presided in her place.

Chairman Pol introduced Mr. Houston Foret, the newest Governor's appointee to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Mr. Foret replaced Mr. Joe Palmisano and is from Cocodrie, Louisiana.

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to accept the Minutes of the July 5-6, 1990 Commission Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting a Status Report on Cooperative Effort with Texas Parks and Wildlife to Reintroduce Attwater Prairie Chickens to Southwest Louisiana was given by Mr. Bob Murphy of the Texas Parks and Wildlife and Mr. Gary Lester of the Louisiana Department Wildlife and Fisheries. Mr. Lester, Coordinator of the Natural Heritage Program addressed the Commission. Mr. Lester reported that the Attwater prairie chicken historically was in Louisiana west of the Bayou Teche River where the coastal prairie existed. Originally there was 2.5 million acres of prairie and now with most of the prairie gone some of the species associated with it are also gone. In the early 1900s' it was estimated that there were about 1 million prairie chickens in Louisiana and east Texas. In February of 1919 the last prairie chicken in Louisiana was

collected 14 miles south of Vinton, Louisiana. In 1967 the species was listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as endangered and there are no longer any prairie chickens in Louisiana but Texas still has a few. In 8 counties, the 1990 census this year showed that there were 470 prairie chickens left in Texas. Mr. Lester advised the Commission that the proposed project is roughly reintroducing the prairie chicken into southwest Louisiana. The department will be involved in terms of finding suitable sights in southwest Louisiana where the birds can survive, and setting up management agreements with owners of the private lands that agree to be involved in this project. The funding of this project will be Section 6 and a Section 6 agreement was just signed in June. This is an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that is part of the Federal Endangered Species Act which allows up to 90 percent federal funding for projects that more than one state is involved with. At this point Mr. Lester introduced Mr. Bob Murphy from Texas, Chief of the Endangered Resources Branch and asked him to address the Commission. Mr. Murphy thanked the members of the Commission for the invitation to address the meeting and reported that they have been working on this particular project. This will be Texas' third request for federal funding and they have actually completed almost one year of work on the project. This is a two phase project; first phase involved working with Texas A&M University to develop propagation methods to try and breed individuals for the species in a captive manner that will still be re-introducible into the wild. As of now there are no results on this but they are optimistic that there will be quite a large number of individuals for re-introduction efforts in the next year or two. In Texas the other part of the project has been to work with private landowners to manage the habitats that they have that either now contain individuals of the species or that have been identified as having potential to sustain re-introduced populations. This is being done through a series of agreements/leases that actually reimburse the landowner for the management procedures that they need to go through. This included grazing reductions and brush control. Dr. Nova Silvey at Texas A&M University is heading the propagation efforts and staff in the Wildlife Division of the Texas Parks and Wildlife have been working cooperatively with the landowners. Texas is looking forward to working with Louisiana on this project and others and are now in the process of drafting the cooperative agreement that is necessary between the two states to receive the 90 percent federal match. This document should be forwarded to the Fish and Wildlife Service for their review in the next couple of weeks concluded Mr. Murphy and asked for questions.

Mr. Jones questioned Mr. Murphy on what was the assurance that re-introduction of the prairie chicken will not introduce disease to the quail which are on the decline in the state of Louisiana and the wild turkey. Mr. Murphy advised that this was a major consideration in the design of the propagation experiments. Instead of being bred in pens the birds will be bred in a very

large enclosure (acres) actually simulating a natural condition in the proration techniques. The habitat is a large enough enclosure to insure that the birds that are prorogated are retrievable. Mr. Jones stated that he has concerns that artificial or human feeding to upland game birds introduce some poultry diseases and would like to have reassurance that these concerns will be answered before a losing battle starts, not only on the prairie chicken but one that would introduce disease to other upland game birds that are somewhat on the decline in the area. Mr. Murphy stated that they share these same concerns but he cannot personally reassure Mr. Jones because he is not that familiar with this problem and that Dr. Silvey is the expert on prairie chickens. Dr. Silvey is working with the Fish and Wildlife Service in Texas on a refuge to assure that any propagation techniques would be the best possible in that regard.

Chairman Pol called for further questions, there being none he thanked Mr. Murphy and Mr. Lester for their presentation.

At Thursday's meeting Chairman Pol introduced Mr. Gary Salmon from Lafayette, present State Chairman of Ducks Unlimited. Mr. Salmon addressed the Commission and informed them that Ducks Unlimited in Canada proudly dedicated another marsh in connection with the monies that the Commissioners in the state of Louisiana have graciously dedicated to the preservation of waterfowl habitat. As State Chairman of Ducks Unlimited in Louisiana he was asked by the national office to come to this meeting and make a presentation. The state of Louisiana has been responsible over the history of Ducks Unlimited for 4.4 million dollars worth of contributions that have gone into projects in Canada. basically in the flyways that benefit the state of Louisiana. Mr. Salmon presented a small memento to each Commissioner in appreciation for their 1990 support of Ducks Unlimited Range Slough Project in Saskatchewan and thanked them very much for their help. Mr. McInnis displayed a book that gives a history of the Range Slough Project and stated that those who were interested he would urge them to take a few minutes to look at the book. It gives a good idea as to what took place in Canada and where the money is going. Mr. McInnis and Mr. Bateman from the department did have the opportunity to go to the dedication.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Hugh Bateman presented the Dates for Migratory Seasons Including Waterfowl to the Commission along with two emergency declarations on the seasons.

Mr. Bateman stated that there will be 2 or 3 items of information on this topic and presented the information on the webless migratory birds seasons that the Commission set back in July. The federal framework has been received on these seasons and the Commission can enact an emergency rule to be placed in the State Register so that these seasons can be set in place advised Mr. Bateman. Mr. Bateman then presented a resolution and a declaration

of emergency to the Commission on the webless migratory bird seasons for action.

Dr. Hines made a motion that the resolution including the emergency declaration be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting at Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier, LA, August 9, 1990.

WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing upland migratory season framework have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for upland migratory species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for upland migratory species within the constraints of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning September 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 24, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these dates will be forwarded to the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulations set for
Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the emergency
declaration is made a part of the
record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the Emergency provision of R.S. 49:953 (B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The hunting seasons for webless migratory birds during the 1990-91 hunting season shall be as follows:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Dove: Split Season, Statewide
Sept. 1-9
Oct. 13 - Nov. 11
Dec. 8 - Jan. 7

Daily bag limit 12, Possession 24

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except on the opening weekend of each split (Sept. 1-2, Oct. 13-14 and Dec. 8-9) when shooting hours will be 12:00 Noon to sunset.

Rail: Nov. 17 - Jan. 20
King and Clapper - daily bag 15 in the aggregate, possession 30. Sora and Virginia - daily bag and possession limit 25 in the aggregate.

Gallinule: Nov. 17 - Jan. 20 - daily bag limit 15, possession 30.

Snipe: Nov. 10 - Feb. 24 - daily bag limit 8, possession 16.

Woodcock: Dec. 1. - Feb. 3 - daily bag limit 5, possession 10.

Shooting hours for rail, gallinule, snipe and woodcock are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services establishes the framework for all migratory species. In order for Louisiana to provide hunting opportunities to the 200,000 sportsmen, selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours must be established and presented to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by August 9, 1990.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will become effective on September 1, 1990 and extend through sunset on February 24, 1991.

Warren Pol
Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Robert Helm, Waterfowl Biologist for the department, to give a status report and background information on last year's duck season and this year's season.

Mr. Helm presented a slide presentation along with the status report and informed those attending that he has available a 20 minute video prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on this same information that does a better job than slides. The video can be viewed this evening or in the next few weeks if anyone is interested advised Mr. Helm. Mr. Helm reported that geographically the colored area pointed out in the slides is the principle Canadian breeding area of ducks in winter which is the Prairie Pothole Region and includes portions in North and South Dakota, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. This is 300,000 square mile area and has up to 100 potholes per square mile. Historically this area was able to produce a tremendous amount of ducks when water conditions improved after an extended drought, however, in the more recent past, man has altered the habitat to such a degree that the birds are not able to respond as quickly as they have in the past thus causing the problem of reducing nesting cover available to ducks to a very narrow band and allowing predators easy access to nesting hens. Nesting success rates of some of the mallards are at 10 percent success or even less. There were two surveys conducted this year, the first in May continuing into June and the second survey begins in July. The May survey is the breeding population survey where an index is developed as to the number of ducks that are available to breed. The July survey is the duck production where an estimated number of ducks is developed that will be migrating South. In association with each of these surveys a count is done on the number of water bodies or ponds available. During the winter flyway meetings this year the gloom and doom that Mr. Helm and Mr. Bateman have become accustomed to hearing was once

again apparent and the outlook for this year looked awful stated Mr. Helm. Precipitation (snowfall) was much reduced this past winter. Late winter was extremely mild and the soil moisture was way down explained Mr. Helm. However, beginning in March and continuing on through the remainder of the year, conditions have improved very dramatically. In May in Prairie Canada the number of ponds available was up over 60 percent; however in the northcentral U.S. not much rain was received in April and May and the count there was down 46 percent from the preceding year. In association with the May survey the breeding pair count is done and the number of breeding mallards was down 4 percent from the previous year and way down from the long term, 27 percent; pintails continue to suffer but improved slightly this year for the first time in several years but are still way below the long term average. The total number of ducks is very similar to last year and up only one percent. Some species are: gadwall up over the average of 16 percent; green-winged teal almost 40 percent above the average; spoonbill is down 4 percent for the long term; blue-winged teal are way down, 40 percent down from the long term average and reached a record low breeding population this year. Good water conditions persisted on through July and conditions in the north central improved also. Compared to last year in July, this July water is primarily an indication of the habitat available to hens and their young. In Prairie Canada the water areas in July were up almost 40 percent and in the U.S. northcentral they were only down 9 percent from last year. With the added rainfall during the summer, even though it may have not improved the actual wetland area it did restore some of the subsoil moisture and it also encouraged lush growth of the vegetation. Both of these are the necessary first steps of improved conditions for following years and this may be a preliminary indication of better habitat next year particularly combined with a normal precipitation between now and next year advised Mr. Helm. The estimated number of ducks to migrate south this year in all four of the flyways is 64 million and is very comparable to the preceding years. Mr. Helm stated that in his opinion this is a conservative estimate by the Fish and Wildlife Service and believes a lot of birds will be brought off late this year that were not available for the survey.

Dr. Hines asked Mr. Helm if the 1989 estimate figure was not also a little conservative. Mr. Helm agreed that it was. The predicated production rate last year was .8 and after looking at the results of the wing survey the production was brought up to 1.1. The fall flight last year was higher than predicted and Mr. Helm believes that the same thing will occur again.

A million birds is the long term goal for the fall flight, but that is a long ways off and duck populations have basically remained unchanged in 3 years stated Mr. Helm.

Mr. Helm reported that the geese are doing very well. The primary factors affecting goose production is when the ice and snow

disappears and this year it was a little late but most of the geese were produced below that fall line this year, Hudson Bay. Snow geese, blues and speckled bellies did relatively well and Louisiana is expecting a similar number of geese as last year which were near record high levels last winter.

The harvest in the flyway last year was up 32 percent total ducks with duck stamp sales going up only slightly. In Louisiana the harvest increased over 50 percent last year while the number of hunters fell 2 percent. Last year there were ideal conditions for hunting ducks in Louisiana stated Mr. Helm. These conditions included good habitat while the rest of the flyway was dry; more ducks than predicted; and the hard freeze which forced all the ducks south.

Other information that Mr. Helm provided the Commission was that this was the fourth year of a five year phase-in for steel shot regulations and 8 parishes will be affected this year and 18 next year when the whole state will be steel shot.

Chairman Pol asked if anyone would like to ask any questions on Mr. Helm's presentation. Dr. Hines asked why the blue-winged teal was down so much and all the other ducks were up? Mr. Helm stated that blue-winged, pintail and mallard are all significantly below the long term. Blue-winged and pintail particularly like to nest in a short grass prairie country, such as southern Alberta and southern portions of Saskatchewan, which have suffered the most in the past 10 years because of the drought. There is just no area for the birds to nest in and the pintail and blue-winged are less adaptable to other areas. A green-winged will nest right adjacent to a blue-winged but they will move from the dry area in the south to the bush country in the north whereas the blue-winged and pintail are not like to do this advised Mr. helm.

Mr. Bateman commented that what Mr. Helm just described is one of the most interesting biological situations with blue-winged. There are a lot of people quick to say that the illegal harvest of birds is causing these declines but the people in the scientific community that are looking at what is happening to wetlands and the nesting areas understand that this is where the difficulty is, the hibernation rate and the fact that there is no recruitment. The pintails and blue-winged are two species of these birds that nest in the area that has been damaged by man's influence. With the cessation of blue-winged teal season and with the fact that blue-winged teal pass through Louisiana before the regular season, about 80-85 percent of the legal harvest of blue-winged have been removed, thereby removing hunting as a major factor in determining what those populations will be. Any legal harvest on these birds for the most part now occurs south of the U.S. in Mexico, Central America and South America. Because the population continues to decline in spite of the fact that in North America 80 percent of the hunting mortality has been removed supports the belief that the

deterioration of the habitat and lack of recruitment is what is causing the problem commented Mr. Bateman.

Mr. Bateman informed the Commission that he has taken the position that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is being conservative and believes that they are doing this to try and hold on to the very conservative regulations. Once the drought is broken, which there is a good start this year, Mr. Bateman believes the Service will loosen up but there is no way that he can predict when this will happen.

At this time Mr. Bateman presented the framework and regulations that were received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Mississippi Flyway this year includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio Tennessee and Wisconsin and all states will have the same framework opportunities in regard to hunting ducks. The hunting seasons will be not more than 30 days. The outside dates (framework dates) for hunting will be October 6 on the front end and January 6 on the back end. Interestingly enough the framework is tending to work against the south and in favor of the north as the ending framework dates have gone from January 8 two years ago when going to the restrictive 30 season and was moved back to January 7 last year and now January 6 this year pointed out Mr. Bateman. However, on the front end of this framework for states in the north that like to open their season very early it started out on October 8 three years ago, went to October 7 last year, and will be October 6 this year. The states are trying to get the Fish and Wildlife Service to remove framework as a consideration for regulating duck harvest and strictly deal with season length and bag limit advised Mr. Bateman. By doing this the states will know what the dates will be from year to year and then let people set their hunting season dates within the time frame that they want to hunt. The duck limits this year offer two options. The conventional bag limit will be 3 ducks, no more than 2 mallards (only 1 of which may be a female), 1 black duck, 1 pintail, 2 wood ducks and 1 redhead. Possession limit will be twice the daily bag limit. As an alternate to the conventional bag limit ducks this year, a point system is once again offered and possession limit would be twice the daily bag limit. There would be three point categories. One hundred point birds would be female mallards, pintails, black ducks, redheads and hooded merganser; 50 point birds would be male mallards and wood ducks; 35 point birds would be all other ducks and mergansers. Canvasback season under either option would remain closed and merganser bag limits under the conventional bag limits would be 5 a day only 1 of which could be a hooded merganser. The coot bag limit would remain the same at 15 and 30. Mr. Bateman added that the zones and split season options are still intact and no problems with this and essentially what the Commission just heard was a no change from last year.

Chairman Pol pointed out that the point system is being offered this year which was taken away last year.

Mr. Bateman explained that the point system has always been an option that the states could use up until 1988 at which time it was taken out but last year it was an option. Interestingly enough the point system was offered in such a fashion last year, and in fact again this year, that it offers no incentive at all to take advised Mr. Bateman. The point system is exactly the same as the conventional bag limit and there are more penalties involved. This is not fair because the whole point system concept was based on the fact that you would have high point values on one end of the point scale and low point values on the other end to counter balance but what the Service chose to stick with was the penalties on the high side and they offer no incentive on the low side explained Mr. Bateman. This problem has been pointed out to the Service and the states hope this will be worked out.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Bateman where do the coots nest. Mr. Bateman answered that they nest right along side of the ducks. Mr. Jenkins asked how the coots got this far south as it seems they cannot fly for very far distances at long times. Mr. Bateman answered that he has marveled at this for 25 years and is a modern miracle from when they nest to get this far south. The Canadians have great respect for the coots. Apparently the coot is a stronger flier than it is given credit, it does not fly that high off the ground but it can cover pretty long distances as evidence that it ends up down here stated Mr. Bateman. Mr. Jones asked about the coot populations. Mr. Helm advised that they were also suffering.

Mr. Bateman then presented the recommended dates for the upcoming duck season and asked if the Commissioners had any questions. Dr. Hines asked the date of Thanksgiving. Mr. Bateman stated that it is November 22 which has been included along with Christmas Day. Dr. Hines stated that he would like to review these dates overnight. Chairman Pol pointed out that the only change made from last year was to move a date back to December 27 in the West Zone to allow people that go out of town for the holidays to get back home and still get in the marsh to go hunting on the 27th. Mr. Jones stated that there have been complaints on the East Zone. The Commissioners will review the dates on the duck season and action will be taken at Friday's meeting.

Mr. Helm presented the goose season to the Commissioners. The goose seasons dates are highly dependent on the duck season dates pointed out Mr. Helm. Goose seasons used to be real simple in Louisiana, however, snow geese have been doing so well that they are literally eating themselves out of house and home in their breeding areas and the Fish and Wildlife Service gave 10 extra days of hunting last year and also increased the bag limit by 2, commented Mr. Helm. A person can now take 7 snow geese a day and there are 80 days of hunting. There is only a 70 day white-

fronted speckled season. For the first time in 30 years there is a 9-day Canada goose season. Mr. Helm advised that there has not been a Canada goose season in Louisiana since 1962. Prior to the 1940s' Louisiana would winter in excess of 100,000 Canada geese. Through a lot of things such as short stopping and changes in land use in the mid-west, the number fell off and through the 60s' and 70' there was just about 1,000 Canada geese primarily in southwest Louisiana. By the early 1980s' the numbers began to increase and it was found out that these Canada geese were directly associated with the white-front geese. Ground surveys were started in 1985 and Louisiana has 5 years of information from these surveys. There are 6 ground crews that do a survey in conjunction with one another involving state, private and also federal personnel. It was found that peak populations ranged from 12,000 to 30,000 with 30,000 for the last two years. The Canada geese are also late migrators peaking in early February whereas white-fronts and snow geese are peaking in late November and December. It is believed that the Canada geese are coming from southeast Texas as the rice base acreage there has fallen off. The status is adequate of Canada geese in Louisiana to provide a very limited hunting season and to elevate this Canada goose in Louisiana as somewhat of a trophy waterfowl species stated Mr. Helm. The season would be 9 days from January 23 to January 31 which is the latest the season runs in the Mississippi Flyway. Late January was chosen because this is when the birds are peaking. Louisiana's original proposal to the Fish and Wildlife Service was for a statewide season and they balked at this feeling like a better control of the harvest was needed which could not be done with a statewide season advised Mr. Helm and limited the hunting to an area in southwest Louisiana involving 9 parishes. There would be one Canada goose a day in the bag (tied in with the white-fronted season) and one white-front or two white-fronts. The start of the season, January 23, is a Wednesday with only one weekend involved. This was designed to be as restrictive in nature as it is. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife wanted Louisiana to develop a method to monitor the harvest advised Mr. Helm. In response the department has developed a permit which should be attached to a map and the way it will work is that there will be a \$5.00 permit that will be required by each person to hunt Canada geese during that 9 day period. This permit has to be in possession of the person while they are hunting and is required of all hunters regardless of age. The cost is an Administrative fee and should not be considered a licensing increase. The bottom portion of the permit is the harvest information which will give the department a handle on how many geese were taken and how many hunters participated. Failure to return this information back to the department will result in that person being disqualified from the hunt the following year.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Helm what he thought the reason was that the Service did not include northeast Louisiana in a Canada geese season as there is a good population in that area also. Mr. Helm advised that they just want a tighter lid on it and Louisiana has

also got Canada geese in central Louisiana. Mr. Jones stated that there are a lot of birds in northeast Louisiana, more than he has seen since he has been hunting in the early 60s'. Mr. Helm commented that those that have been involved in the survey also work in that area. There is a man from the Alexandria office that looks at Avoyelles, Rapides and somebody in Monroe that looks at Morehouse. They occasionally see Canada geese but nowhere the numbers that are in the southwest consistently. The state wanted to provide the opportunity of a Canada geese season statewide but the Service wanted it in a tight little box. This will be 3-year experimental season. The department will get the administrative fee and will cover the cost of the program. The permits will be available from either the Baton Rouge, Lake Charles or Opelousas office or through the mail from these offices. Mr. Jones asked how the Canada geese were doing nationwide. Mr. Helm stated that they are doing incredibly well. The Mississippi Valley population goal is a million and this year the harvest they are trying to obtain is a million. In the Eastern Flyway there are some problems with some of the flocks of the Canada geese. The birds that Louisiana is getting are a small Canada geese, 4-5 pound bird. Louisiana used to get a much larger bird. This bird is normally associated with the Central Flyway and not the Mississippi advised Mr. Helm. Dr. Hines asked if there were any states in the Mississippi or Central Flyways that have a 3-split season rather than a 2-split? Mr. Helms answered yes they are but they do not have zones. You can have 3-splits with no zones, he said, but did not know if that option is available to Louisiana. Dr. Hines suggested that it might be worthwhile to look into the possibility of having a 3-split season statewide for next year. This would give people more opportunity to hunt on the weekends.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Bateman reported that the status of waterfowl was discussed at Thursday's meeting and the Commission was provided with a couple of options to look at with the understanding that they could be modified as the Board would like in terms of setting the season dates. Mr. Bateman advised that there is a declaration of emergency, much like the two that the Commission had just heard, which is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will establish the framework for all migratory birds species and in order to provide hunting opportunities for Louisiana's 65,000-70,000 waterfowl hunters it must make its selection of these season dates, bag limits, shooting hours prior to September 1 and obviously the Commission will not meet until after that date unless a special meeting was called. This information will be presented for inclusion in the Federal Regulations stated Mr. Bateman and asked the Commission to select season dates for ducks, geese and coots.

At this point in the meeting Chairman Pol asked Mr. Bateman to give the options for the migratory bird season. Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the dates for the West Zone. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the Commission accept the first alternative which is November

17 through December 5 and December 27 through January 6 on the West Zone. Mr. McCall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the dates for the East Zone. A motion was made by Mr. Jones that the East Zone open on November 17 through November 25 and second split opening December 17 through January 6. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Dr. Hines commented on the dates in relation to other seasons. Mr. Jones advised that he has had a lot of hunters from his area request that they have the Thanksgiving holidays and realizes it is a sacrifice situation but feels like in his mind that they would rather have that weekend and then open the season on a Monday than not to have that weekend. Chairman Pol called for further discussion, there being none he called for the question. The motion passed with Dr. Hines opposing.

Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the dates for the goose season. Dr. Hines asked if there was any flexibility on the Canadian Goose season. Mr. Bateman answered no, that the details of this season have already been negotiated as conservatively as they could with the Fish and Wildlife Service and they arrived on both particular dates which are in fact published in the federal guidelines. In future years there is going to have to be some flexibility to move these date stated Mr. Bateman and asked Mr. Helm if he knew of any flexibility. Mr. Helm advised that in the package printed from the Washington office those dates are specified. Dr. Hines stated that it is going to be an enforcement nightmare when in the West Zone duck hunting closes on December 5, goose hunting either closes on the 8th or 9th of December then it reopens on the 15 and duck hunting doesn't open until December 17 in the East Zone and does not see how all this can be enforced. Mr. Bateman commented that they have always had this to some degree because of the way the state was zoned for duck hunting and the fact there was always 55 days of duck hunting or 45 days of duck hunting or 30 days of duck hunting and never have had 70 or 80 days of duck hunting. Chairman Pol stated that nothing could be done about it this year but possibly next year during the negotiating stage with the feds maybe a better time can be gotten. Chairman Pol called for a motion on the goose season. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the goose season, as read by Mr. Bateman, be accepted. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

The resolution and emergency declaration was presented by Mr. Bateman for the setting of the migratory bird season. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that this be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting at Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier, LA, August 10, 1990.

WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing migratory waterfowl season framework have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for migratory waterfowl species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for migratory waterfowl species within the constraints of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning November 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 28, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these dates will be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulation set for Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the declaration of emergency is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the Emergency provision of R.S. 49:953 (B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The hunting seasons for ducks, coots, and geese during the 1990-91 hunting season shall be as follows:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Ducks and Coots (Closed Season on Canvasbacks)

West Zone: November 17 - December 5
 December 27 - January 6

East Zone: November 17 - November 25
 December 17 - January 6

Daily Bag Limit: The daily bag limit on ducks is 3 and may include no more than 2 mallards (no more than 1 of which may be a female), 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 1 pintail and 1 redhead. Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Merganser: The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit: The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

Geese: Statewide

November 17 - December 8
December 15 - January 31
February 1 - 10

Daily Bag Limit: Daily bag limit is 7 in the aggregate of blue, snow and white-fronted geese of which not more than 2 may be white-fronted (specklebellies) except

as noted below. During the last 10 days (February - February), only blue and snow geese may be taken. During the Experimental Canada Goose Season (January 23-January 31) the daily bag limit for Canada and white-fronted geese is 2, of which not more than 1 can be a Canada goose. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Experimental Canada Goose Season - January 23-31 (NEW)

An experimental Canada goose season will be open in a portion of southwest Louisiana. The area shall be described as follows:

South of Hwy. 12 from Texas line to Ragley; then south of Hwy. 190 to Opelousas; west of I-49 to Lafayette; west of Hwy 167 to Abbeville; west and north of Hwy. 82 to the Texas line.

A special permit shall be required to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season. A permit is required of everyone, regardless of age, and a non-refundable \$5.00 administrative fee will be charged. This permit may be obtained from the Lake Charles, Opelousas and Baton Rouge Offices.

Return of harvest information requested on permit is mandatory. Failure to submit this information to the Department by February 15, 1991 will result in the hunter not being allowed to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season the following year.

Shooting Hours: Shooting hours for ducks, coots and geese are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service establishes the framework for all migratory waterfowl species. In order to provide hunting opportunity for the 65,000 waterfowl hunters, Louisiana must make its selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours prior to September 1, 1990 and present this information for inclusion in the federal regulations.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will be in effect by Emergency Rule for 120 days beginning November 1, 1990 and extend through February 28, 1991.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

The Alligator Quotas were discussed by Mr. James Manning at Thursday's meeting. Mr. Manning reported that at the last Commission meeting the emergency rule was passed to establish the alligator seasons for this year for wild harvest and also set in motion procedures to establish a set of rules and regulations to be promulgated through the Administrative Procedure Act. The season begins September 1 and goes through September 30, 1990. At the time the Commission was establishing the season department personnel were making their annual surveys throughout coastal Louisiana and getting information from the northern areas of the state to establish a quota system. The nest counts were compiled and taken through the formula. Nesting this year was very similar to last year with a slight increase. Calculations were made and in with the calculations the department is in the process of shifting to the new vegetative type maps that will be published in the near future. The tag quotas have been approved by the Secretary and are the same as last year stated Mr. Manning. At this point in the meeting Mr. Manning gave the Commissioners a brief summary of what went on last year and what is going on this year on the quotas. Last year there were 1,756 alligator hunters and approximately 26,068 tags for the wild were issued. This is what the department is looking at this year. The tag allotment will vary as people apply for tags. The prices for hides this year are very similar to last years. They averaged \$50 a foot last year and began to see a stratificational size length because the U.S. is the sole vendor of large reptilian or crocodilian hides. The average length last year was 7 feet, 3 inches, 4.4 million acres of land were hunted, and harvested right at 25,000 alligators in the wild. Most of the skins went to the French, Italians and Japanese. Mr. Manning informed the Commissioners that a alligator tannery has been established in Baton Rouge which will be going into its first year. So far the tannery has processed 4,500 hides but they are still working on their techniques. The tanning business is a very close kept secret throughout the world.

Mr. Manning went on to report that at this time there are 129 licensed alligator farms. Last year 180,000 eggs were contracted out and around 140,000 were hatched out which brought the total on the farms last year to about 221,000 farm raised alligators. This year 385,000 eggs have been permitted to be picked up from the wild and are probably in the process of hatching. In the next month or so there will probably 350,000 alligators on the farms. There were 25,000 alligators sold this past harvest year and right now approaching 75,000 alligators coming from the farms. There are a few thousands tags left for this year which will end August 31. Mr. Manning commented that they are hoping the department does not run out of tags for the farmers and looking at taking about 100,000 alligators this year from the farms. There will be 150,000 tags for next year but are already looking at ordering more from Fish and Wildlife Service Mr. Manning informed the Commission. Concluding his report Mr. Manning asked for questions. There being none Chairman Pol thanked Mr. Manning for his report.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Blue Watson gave a Status Report and Update on the Scenic Rivers System. Mr. Watson proceeded to bring the Commissioners up-to-date on what has been going on with the Scenic Rivers System. Last year the department was able to increase its staff so that there are now 2 full-time Scenic Rivers Systems personnel on board. Mr. Watson then gave a brief history of the Scenic Rivers System. The Scenic Rivers System was established in the late 60s' and early 70s' to protect some of the better streams in Louisiana. A lot of the streams were incorporated into the system through the legislative process and were designated instantaneous scenic rivers some of which were more scenic than others. The system has evolved to the point where there are now 49 streams or stream segments in the system scattered throughout the state. This past legislative session there were 3 more streams that were nominated to be included in the system. These 3 streams are the lower portion of the Calcasieu River from Whiskey Chitto to Moss Bluff, Cypress Creek in Rapides Parish which is a tributary to the Calcasieu River and Bay Darbonne between Lake Claiborne and Lake Darbonne. Surveys will have to be done on the streams and recommendations will have to be made to the legislature prior to the next session as to whether or not those streams are considered worthy of being included in the system. The Scenic Rivers Task Force was established by the legislature to develop some new rules and regulations based on a new Scenic Rivers Act that was passed 2 or 3 years ago. The task force has done this and the regulations have not been promulgated as of yet. A copy of the initial draft of the new Scenic Rivers Regulations was received from the task force in late May just prior to the beginning of the legislative session and in consultation with the department's legal counsel it was determined that the department would wait until after the session to review rules/regulations, make final recommendations to the Secretary then go back to the task force and to the public for some comments on the rules and regulations. At the same time the task force was putting together the recommended rules and regulations with the assistance of the Tulane Environmental Law Institute, a statewide survey on the Scenic River System was instituted to gather as much information as possible on the 49 streams that are in the system. The department is now in the process of preparing a report on the Scenic Rivers Survey which has been completed, at least the initial phase. This report will be in 3 separate covers, in 3 different degrees of complexity. Number 1 will be the overall report to the legislature and to the Commission which will cover essentially what was done in the survey and going into great detail on what was actually found. Number 2 will be a public information document which will simply be a synopsis covering each of the scenic rivers. The department has an agreement with LSU Cadgis Lab and they have developed and drafted the maps. The publication should be available to the public hopefully by the latter part of September. Number 3 publication is a regulatory publication which will include the scenic rivers regulations once they are promulgated and information

to an applicant about what would be required of him under the Scenic Rivers Act to get a permit to do an activity on a scenic river. Two individuals have been hired for this section, enforcement activity has increased significantly, we are getting a lot of cooperation from the public and are in the process of trying to develop an outreach program with the public to establish a "River Watch System" of public groups around the state. There are people all over the state who are very interested in this system and who are helping the department out tremendously Mr. Watson informed the Commission. There are plans for expanding the surveys to gather much more detailed information on the streams primarily for regulatory reasons. The surveillance activities are ongoing and Mr. Lee Caubarreux who is the field biologist is right now working with a complaint that has been received on Big Creek for unauthorized water withdrawal. A verbal cease and desist order has been issued and the department is in the process of trying to get the company to comply with requesting a permit. There are also problems with land clearing, particularly along the upper Calcasieu River and we have been in very heated discussions with the organization (Roy O. Martin-Alexandria) who is involved advised Mr. Watson. Recommendations have been made through the department's forester about the prohibition against clear cutting along the scenic rivers and the department have tried to come up with a good definition of what "selective removal" of trees is. The department's forester, Mr. Kenney Ribbeck, has come up with what is believed to be a good definition and Roy O. Martin has been approached with this. They have more or less agreed that they think it is also a good idea and it looks like the Louisiana Forestry Association can be approached to promote cooperation. Mr. Watson asked Dr. Jim Thompson to address the Commission.

Dr. Thompson reported that Act 947 has two sections; Section 1846 and 1848 that relates to planning which is his job. These sections require the department to develop a plan within 1 year after a stream has been selected for the system by the legislature. After a survey is made, it requires that the plan be updated every 5 years, requires coordination with other agencies in the state government, and requires the state to at least consider scenic rivers in all of its water resource activities. Dr. Thompson stated that he always saw planning as a type of research, one that tries to identify problems and look for solutions to the problems and this is what he hopes to bring to the system. From the brief time that Dr. Thompson has been on board and from the limited time that he has spent in the field Louisiana does not have a perfect system just as it isn't a perfect world. There is a great range in the quality of the streams and perhaps looking down the road Louisiana might think in terms of taking some of these streams out and adding other streams that are of higher quality; think in terms of different categories for the streams in the system and include cultural streams as well as those with natural and scenic qualities. Planning is an activity concerned with enhancing the rationality of choice to facilitate decision making stated Dr.

Thompson. Section 1848 requires a great deal of public involvement in these plans and for the system to be successful the department is going to have to work very closely with the officials at the parish level. Concluding Dr. Thompson stated that he was glad to be with the department and asked for questions.

Mr. Jones asked when the regulations were going to be amended that came from the task force to be presented to the Secretary? Mr. Watson advised that will try to be done before the first of September. Mr. Jones asked if the Commissioners could receive a copy of this. Mr. Watson assured him they would get a copy. Mr. Jones then asked what was the Commission's position in helping with the decision making process of the scenic rivers. Mr. Blue explained that in the Scenic Rivers Act as it was drafted and promulgated, it threw the onus completely on the Secretary and advised that he has not talked with Secretary Van Sickle on how she wants to proceed with the promulgation of the rules. Mr. Jones commented that he would like to be privy to the process and what is coming through the system. Mr. Watson concurred with Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones asked about the rivers that were taken out of the system this year. Mr. Watson advised that there were two scenic rivers that were in essence removed from the system. A portion of Middle Fork of Bayou Darbonne up near Haynesville south of the Arkansas state line was accepted, it was not actually removed. The bill allows Haynesville to build a reservoir but the portion of the river will remain in the system until such time as they get a permit to do so. The same thing was done with Big Creek in Grant Parish Pollock and Dry Prong. Mr. Jones stated that there has been some concerns about some industry that is coming into Claiborne Parish and he was wondering if this had any influence on it. Mr. Watson stated that he did not know but it could very well have been part of the hidden agenda. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Watson if he would look into this. Mr. Watson advised Mr. Jones that they already are.

At this time during the meeting Chairman Pol stated that he would like to defer from the agenda and have the Monthly Law Enforcement report as Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Clark has got to return to Baton Rouge. Also there are people attending the meeting that would like to address the Commission. The rest of the agenda will be taken up at Friday's meeting advised Chairman Pol.

At Thursday's meeting the Monthly Law Enforcement Report was presented by Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Clark. Lt. Colonel Clark reported that at this time of the year law enforcement spends most of its time on the water. A lot of this has to do with boating safety, commercial fishing along the coast, and the new fishing license year. The following cases were made:

Region I - 180 Enforcement cases; 0 Other
Region II - 157 Enforcement cases; 0 Other
Region III - 229 Enforcement cases; 13 Other

Region IV - 140 Enforcement cases; 2 Other
Region V - 252 Enforcement cases; 44 Other
region VI - 292 Enforcement cases; 9 Other
Region VII - 379 Enforcement cases; 15 Other
Region VIII - 314 Enforcement cases; 86 Other
Region IX - 318 Enforcement cases; 11 Other

One of the biggest problems in boating is DWI's. The Amite, Tickfaw and Tangipahoa Rivers have lured the people out of New Orleans and on any given Saturday morning you will find half of New Orleans might decide to go to one particular area. With all the bars on the water now this is causing a dangerous problem.

The Oyster Strike Force had 54 cases and seized 62 sacks of oyster, 1 lugger boat, 2 flatboats, 2 outboard motors, 2 oyster dredges, 2 skiffs, 1 trawl, 2 butterfly nets, 757 lbs. of shrimp, 1 alligator.

The Aircraft had 8 cases. The aircraft support activity is unbelievable and without aircraft enforcement could not even hope to monitor commercial fishing activities, especially in Breton and Chandeleur Sound,, off the coast and in and along the coast.

S.W.E.P. had 51 cases; 31-trawling in closed season and 10-oversized trawls. There were 5,815 lbs. of shrimp seized, 32-trawls, with dollar value being \$9,347.33.

Grand total for the month of July was 2,546 cases stated Lt. Colonel Clark. Lt. Colonel Clark pointed out that the quality of the cases that are being made are starting to go up in that enforcement is spending their time where the activity is. Commercial fishing this time of the year is a primary concern along with a lot of boating. Boating will start to decline as of next month's report and will start showing a lot of trawling in closed season, license cases, and hunting cases as the seasons approach. Lt. Colonel asked if there were any questions.

Mr. McCall asked about the night of July 22, 1990, when 3 boats were picked up in Vermilion Bay for going across the line (talking about Beacon 4). Mr. McCall has received 3 letters from these people, numerous phone calls from other people and he has checked into these people and has found them to be good, reliable fishermen and not trying to get out there and break the law. These people went ahead and paid their fine because it would cost \$3,000-\$4,000 to defend themselves and they would be tied up from fishing. Mr. McCall advised that these people and others have told him that it is more or less been an understanding between the wildlife agents and shrimpers in that area that Beacon #4 would be the line although the line is actually slightly south of Beacon #4. For years these boats have been pushing up to Beacon #4 and turning around to stay within the law according to the understanding with the agents. This particular night the boats apparently went a

little pass the line of Beacon #4 and were caught. The people are now asking if a line could be set up where everybody knows where it is stated Mr. McCall. If the line is slightly south of Beacon #4, set up another line so that they will know where it is at. Lt. Colonel Clark stated that he does not have the case incident in front of him but he could get his people to go out and look at the line and see how far the land distant is and pointed out the line was changed 2 years ago consistently along the coast, that simply named point to point as it goes across. Mr. McCall asked is not the western bank of the area pretty well washed out where it is hard to define point to point in a high tide. Lt. Colonel Clark stated yes in the shoal area there and if Mr. McCall could give him the names of the boats he could pull the case report and get with the agents and look into the case. Mr. McCall advised that the will give him the names of the boats after the meeting. Deputy Secretary McInnis advised that the only way the line can be changed is legislatively. Mr. McCall stated that they were not asking that the line be changed only that it be marked.

Chairman Pol called for a motion that the rules be suspended with two-thirds vote to bring before the Commission several other issues. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the rules be suspended and take up items under Other Business. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

Chairman Pol asked District Attorney Billy Pucheu, Evangeline parish, to address the Commission. Mr. Pucheu stated that he had talked with Congressman Clyde Holloway and Senator Joe McPherson about this and is also speaking for about 12 District Attorneys and probably everybody that is running for office at this time. Mr. Pucheu appealed to the Commission that they discuss the squirrel season which opens on Election Day this year. There are 21,000 registered voters in Evangeline Parish and it is figured that 15,000 will vote this election because all of the issues stated Mr. Pucheu and at least 10 percent will not vote because of squirrel season. People voting absentee have to go to the court house which in some cases are 30 miles from where they live. The polls are opened from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and if a person works from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. there is no way for a person to vote absentee during the week. On Saturdays they are opened from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and if there is a large number trying to vote there is no way that all of them will be able to do so. It is being requested that the Commission change the squirrel season from October 6 which is also Election Day. Moving the season back may cause some problems but moving it forward would not cause any problem if some people did not get the word that it had changed suggested Mr. Pechue. Mr. Pucheu advised that he has talked with Colonel Winton Vidrine and was told that enforcement would not have any problems with this, particularly if it goes forward. Throughout the state the opening of squirrel season on Election Day will cost some people an election pointed out Mr. Pucheu. There was a bill, by Senator Seviro, in the legislature this year that

did deal with seasons opening on election days but was killed in committee with department people speaking against it stated Mr. Pucheu. Since it was too late to have another committee, Senator Seviro on the last day of the legislature had the Senate pass a resolution (39-0) requesting the Commission to change the date. Mr. Pucheu stated that he was informed that a copy of this resolution had been sent to the Commissioners. Several of the Commissioners stated that they did not receive the resolution or any other correspondence pertaining to this. Mr. Pucheu commented that if this was not important from the Congressman on down to the Justice of Peace, the 12 constitutional amendments, that he certainly would not be taking up the Commission's time and appealed to the Commission to change the opening day of squirrel season. There will be 15,000-18,000 people not voting on Election Day because of squirrel season stated Mr. Pucheu.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Pucheu if he was a squirrel hunter. Mr. Pucheu answered "no" but he has sons that are. Mr. Jones stated that if the scenario is correct that what Mr. Pucheu has given there is obviously going to be a cross section from all the people and how they would vote so there would be a pro-rata share of the above voters saying they are going. Mr. Jones commented that he believes that outdoors men are responsible people in his area and he feels quite confident knowing that this is Election Day that he himself as a squirrel hunter will vote. Everyone knows that on the first day of squirrel hunting season after 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. that nobody hunts because the wind blows, there are too many leaves, you cannot run dogs, it is not conducive to good hunting tactics and if a hunter is going to leave the parish they need to be responsible enough to vote absentee stated Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones also pointed out that archery season will also be going on. Mr. Pucheu stated that he has yet to meet a hunter who objected to the changing of the opening day.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Bateman if there were any objections as far as the department staff is concerned? Mr. Bateman advised not really and that this had been discussed with the Commissioners earlier when the bills were under consideration in the legislature. From a biological standpoint it makes no difference. This has been in place for many years and the department checked with the Secretary of State to see how many times this would occur which would be rarely. The department thinks a good many sportsmen would be disappointed if the season is changed now that they have set dates to hunt, etc. and Mr. Bateman stated that he did not know if the Commission has ever done this before. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Pucheu if any candidate would get a disproportion amount of the vote that won't show up because of this opening? Mr. Pucheu answered it was a little difficult for him to say, but he would say "yes" and reason would be because it is the type of person who goes hunting, the independent people. Dr. Hines pointed out that Mr. Pucheu probably has a greater concern about squirrel hunting than say Representative Roach might have because squirrel hunting in

Evangeline Parish is kind of a religion and would be like duck hunting down in Cameron Parish and asked if it would be legal to move the date forward. Legal Counsel, Mr. Don Puckett, stated that the bill that was passed by Senator Kelley last year, in his opinion, gave the Commission greater authority than what has been set in the statute. In other words if the Commission sets a season that varies from the October 1 framework it is Mr. Puckett's opinion that the Commission has the authority to do this because the way the bill is written it says "any season that is set by a rule promulgated by the Commission supersedes the statutory set season". Dr. Hines asked if the season could be changed without a public hearing, would this be legal? Mr. Puckett stated that it could be legally done by promulgating an emergency rule to put it into effect but the problem as he sees it, not so much as a legal one as it is with regard to the public, is the fact that even though it was legally taken up under Other Business it was not on the published agenda so that someone who might have an opinion contrary to District Attorney Pucheu would not have known to be here to speak against it.

Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis added that as a point of clarification on the legislature that he was the individual who spoke on behalf of the department for informational purposes only at the request of one of the representatives. They did have a quorum at the time and it was one of the last meetings that they did have. The question that was asked Mr. McInnis was how is this going to change things which basically it would be on a different weekend than it had been for a number of years. At this point in time the representative that had introduced the bill was concerned about displacing the other segment of the population who had made their plans and at that time withdrew the bill. The department did not speak in opposition of the bill but only answered questions advised Mr. McInnis.

Dr. Hines stated that he was in great sympathy with Mr. Puchey on this issue but he can see some major problems that this change will cause. One of the problems is that every bow hunter in the state of Louisiana will be on the Commission if it is moved forward because the guns will be in the woods before the bows. The second problem is the large number of people who have already planned their vacations to take off to go squirrel hunting on October 6.

Chairman Pol advised that this issue will be taken under consideration by the Commission and will inform Mr. Bateman in the morning as to the decision of the Commission. Mr. Pucheu thanked the Commission for allowing him to address them on this issue.

At this point in time Chairman Pol turned the meeting over to Mr. Norman McCall. Mr. McCall related that a sizable number of large shrimp have appeared in Calcasieu Lake and boats are picking up 30 to 40 boxes a night. The shrimp appear to be migrating out of the system at a rapid rate and there has been concern by many of the

fishermen and other people in the area about the migration and the possibility of the loss of the shrimp to the local fishermen. Mr. McCall advised that he has talked to Dr. Jerry Clark about this and believes that there is a way to work this out and possibly salvage some of the shrimp. Mr. McCall stated that Dr. Clark would like to let any of the fishermen attending the meeting speak on the subject and then Dr. Clark and he will follow.

The following persons addressed the Commission:

Representative Randy Roach from District 36 which includes all of Cameron and part of Calcasieu stated that the proposition that they have to present to the Commission today is an early opening of the shrimp season. They were hoping it could be opened statewide but talking to Dr. Clark he does not think the data would justify statewide opening except for Zone 3. The Cameron Parish Police Jury had sent a letter to the department, which they have not received yet, which basically request an early opening of the shrimp season provided that it would be statewide. The situation seems to be that in Calcasieu Lake there is a good crop of large white shrimp that are marketable and the fishermen have been suffering economically, and some of them would like to have the opportunity to harvest that crop. There is concern over the fact that if the season could not be opened statewide in all zones this would present an undue amount of pressure on this area and in effect could in the long run end up harming the entire season for the sake of 1 or 2 days of fishing. Representative Roach stated that he was not really in a position to advocate one way or the other and would like for the gentlemen who are attending the meeting to explain to the Commission their concerns and feelings on the issue. Senator Doland would like to speak also commented Representative Roach and perhaps at the end a summarization could be made along with a recommendation if this is alright with the Commissioners. Chairman Pol advised that this would be fine.

Mr. Preston Hebert, Cameron, commented that the problems was that everyday you leave the season closed the shrimp will be lost before the opening. The same thing happened in the spring season. There was good shrimp in the lake, 50-60, 40-50, mixed with 21-25, 15-20 white shrimp. The moon was right before the lake opened and the shrimp migrated out and when the season opened in the spring the fishermen were fishing 150 count shrimp. Mr. Hebert would like to see the season opened by the 15th if there is anyway possible.

Mr. Bill Dyson, commercial shrimper, commented that right now he can work in the Gulf and make a living. If the season is opened right now or on the 15th shrimpers from other areas will come in and wipe it out and Cameron will benefit none by these shrimp in the lake because they will not even be sold in Cameron. Mr. Dyson does not believe the season should be opened until the 20th of August as originally set.

Mr. Mike Bargalua, oyster business, St. Mary Parish, commented that he had a lot of shrimpers call him this morning and asked that he relay to the Commission to leave the shrimp season as it is, August 20th, because Vermilion Bay has a lot of little shrimp in it.

Chairman Pol stated that Mr. Dale Vinet, former Commission member, representing his people in the Delcambre area, had called him and requested the date stay the same, August 20th.

Mr. C. J. Kieffe, Cameron Parish, stated that this is the criteria that you have to look at. What is the credibility of the Commission. At the July meeting a season was set for August 20th. When the season was set did the Commission take into consideration that the date would have to be changed. If the Commission did not take it into consideration that the date would have to be changed depending on the biological survey than leave the date as it is because the Commission will change its credibility commented Mr. Kieffe. If the season opens on the 15th you are talking about 200-300 boats on Calcasieu Lake as compared to 100 boats if the season opens on the 20th pointed out Mr. Kieffe and these are the things that the Commission is going to have to make a decision on. Mr. Kieffe advised that he felt for the people who want to open on the 15th and for the people who want to open on 20th but he was not in the fishing business anymore but in the net and supply business and when the shrimpers don't make money neither does he.

Mr. Dolanque, shrimper, commented that if the season is opened on the 20th most of the shrimp will be gone. The people that are going to catch them are the people that are fishing in the jetties and the people that go out in the Gulf. The little shrimpers with little boats and the people that butterfly for a living are not going to have a chance. Mr. Dolanque believes the season should be opened on the 15th of August.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Dolanque to put himself in the position of the Commission. Here you have Zones 1 and 2 saying that they do not want to open under any conditions because they still have very small shrimp. Now, let say that the Commission has no objections to opening Zone 3 earlier and if they do the shrimpers will have to suffer the consequences of boats coming in from all over to shrimp. The Commission is going to try and do everything to help everybody stated Chairman Pol and all recommendations will have to be considered.

After a short discussion between Chairman Pol and Mr. Dolanque on the growth of shrimp Dr. Clark was asked how fast a shrimp would grow in 5 days. Dr. Jerry Clark advised that on average, shrimp grow a millimeter a day.

With no further comments from the audience, Chairman Pol asked Senator Jack Doland to address the group.

Senator Doland stated that not being a shrimpers he will just have to weigh what he has heard just like the Commission will have to weigh and make a recommendation. Many people have called requesting that it be opened early but Senator Doland does not know if they have taken in the ramifications of the boats that would come in to the area if it is opened early. If Zones 1 and 2 cannot be opened early, then everybody who has a movable situation in these areas, or who would want to take the trouble will come in and swamp Zone 3 and very little will have been gained by the fishermen from this area. This is the question you are looking at and Senator Doland believes it is a shame that the best time for shrimping in their area is not the same for the other zones. Dr. Clark was asked by Senator Doland about the biological data and if it showed that Zone 3 should be opened for shrimping. Dr. Clark stated that there are good size shrimp in the lake right now that could be caught. There are also pretty good numbers of small shrimp that ought to not be caught in the lake and like somebody said today that they do not want to catch small ones and if it opened now and if people targeted on those larger shrimp and not the small shrimp it would be good to be opened but that is the dilemma of shrimp management, especially white shrimp commented Dr. Clark. Dr. Clark stated that he agrees with everything that he has heard today.

Senator Doland stated that he had asked Mr. James King, Southwest Fishermen Association, about this and Mr. King had wanted to open it early but again he is not at this meeting to listen to the discussion and to hear the situation involved. Senator Doland's agreement with Mr. King was to ask the Commission to open the season early. If the early opening is going to bring in a influx of people that will have no good effect on this area, than absolutely nothing has been done and the area shrimpers will be struggling with a lot of strange boats out there commented Senator Doland. Senator Doland advised that if he had to vote that he would vote to leave the season like it is but doesn't think that necessarily couldn't be changed with any arguments that anybody wants to put up. Senator Doland feels like the problem is whatever leaves, that much would be lost by strange people wiping out the lake in 2 or 3 days. Senator Doland stated that this is just one opinion and he certainly respects everybody else's opinion and just trying to weigh it all but will stick with this as a recommendation if the Commission needs a recommendation.

Chairman Pol thanked Senator Doland for his address and asked Representative Randy Roach how he felt about this.

Representative Roach stated that obviously the Commission would not be agonizing with this decision if Senator Doland and he had not prevailed upon Mr. McCall to try and bring it up and do it. Senator Doland and Representative Roach have talked to people all week and talked about the crop that is out there and the fact that these guys have been struggling. Representative Roach advised that

he is not a shrimper but he does know that there is an unknown factor in the lake right now, and that is the impact that this Cameron-Creole Watershed Project has on the shrimp, production, etc. After considering what Representative Roach has heard this afternoon and some of the concerns that have been expressed he too is concerned about the impact that opening Zone 3 would have and getting all those boats on the lake. This could very well impact and ruin the entire season especially when you have some of those immature juvenile shrimp in the lake and when you put a bunch of boats in there this could very well happen stated Representative Roach. Representative Roach believes that the main thing is that the people in Cameron Parish know that the Commission is responsive to their needs and their concerns and believes that the Commission has demonstrated this and is appreciated it very much. Representative Roach suggested to the Commission, at this time, that maybe, on balance, the season be left as it is and let mother nature work her magic and hopefully those shrimp will grow maybe a little bit more than a millimeter a day.

Chairman Pol asked the new Commission member, Mr. Houston Foret, that since he was a shrimp processor what his views were on this. Mr. Foret stated that he has heard both sides and has made a lot of phone calls yesterday and today. Right now in their area there are outlaws that are catching at night and still have a lot of brown shrimp at about 31-35 but into the shallow bays there is a real beautiful crop of white shrimp which runs right at 60-70 count right now. Mr. Foret stated that they do not feel that it is feasible to open their area any earlier than the 20th, if possible even later, because for the simple reason that all processing plants at this time have a lot of small shrimp in the freezer and they cannot afford to have the season opened right now with small shrimp. Mr. Foret commented that he does not know what size shrimp they have in Calcasieu and if they do run anywhere from 20-35 he would be in favor of going ahead and opening Calcasieu, but leave Zones 1 and 2 alone.

Chairman Pol stated that from the standpoint of action by the Commission that there is no need to take any action on this issue and the date of the opening of the fall "white" shrimp season will be left as it is, August 20, 1990. Dr. Clark briefly commented and said that before the people in this area leave the meeting that he thinks everybody attending today has gotten an introduction to this issue and those who have been in the industry a long time know that this happens every year on every opening and every closing there is in the shrimp fishery. Right now the Governor's Shrimp task force is trying to put together a Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Dr. Clark pointed out and he invited everyone in the room who is associated with the shrimp fishery to become part of that process so that this Commission and the department and the legislature in the future can try and come to a resolution on a reasonable basis using everybody's input about how to make these decisions year, after year, after year stated Dr. Clark. Dr. Clark's opinion is

that the swords that are currently held are to blunt and if a way could be found to let the people in Calcasieu harvest that crop in a flexible system for all the zones then this is what everyone should be trying to do. Dr. Clark believes that the Shrimp Task Force is trying vainly to come up with such a system. Chairman Pol asked if there was anybody from the area on the task force. Dr. Clark answered that there are 3 members. Senator Doland said that C. J. Kieffe, Butch Willis and Bolo Trosclair are members of the task force. They may not be direct shrimpers but they know what is needed advised Senator Doland.

Chairman Pol adjourned the Thursday's meeting of the Commission and advised that the meeting will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. Friday morning.

At Friday's meeting Chairman Pol advised that when the meeting was adjourned Thursday they were in a matter of Other Business and this should be gotten out of the way. There were several items that are being brought up under Other Business.

Chairman Pol asked that the records reflect that at the Joint Meeting with the Texas Parks and Wildlife on July 19 at the San Marcos Fish Hatchery, the Commission had promised that the possibility of setting joint limits of crappie on the Toledo Bend Area would be investigated. Chairman Pol instructed Dr. Clark to meet with the Texas Commission, come up with a joint recommendation and bring it back to the board so that this can be reviewed and approved. What is trying to be adverted is not to have 2 limits on Toledo Bend, otherwise have one limit that will serve for both Texas and Louisiana. Chairman Pol directed Dr. Clark to pursue this right away. Dr. Clark stated he would.

Chairman Pol advised that Mr. Don Puckett had been asked to research a couple of items. One was the Commission's authority to manage speckled trout as allocated by the legislature during this past session and Mr. Puckett will give his opinion of what the law says. Another was to render a ruling on appointments and such with the board. Chairman Pol asked Mr. Puckett to give the Commission both of these decisions and explain how they were arrived at.

Mr. Puckett, Legal Counsel, informed the Commission that he had looked at the issue with regard to the speckled trout. The legislature for the past couple of years and more have treated speckled trout and redbfish uniquely as compared to other finfish and basically the sections that were reviewed are Sections 625, 22 and 326.3 all of which were amended or affected by Act 376 of the current legislature. All of the acts that do not become effective by signature of the Governor will become effective September 2, or September 7 1990. The Commission was granted broad powers to regulate finfish including the powers to set possession limits, quotas, seasons, times, size limits and daily take limits. However, as has been the case in the past, redbfish and speckled

trout was excluded from this being given special treatment. The recreational creel limit and the commercial quota are both specifically set by statute and the legislature has seen fit not to give the Commission that power. However, from the standpoint, and as Mr. Puckett understands it, there is presently a problem with the current levels of speckled trout and the Commission is considering delaying the opening of the commercial quota season and/or considering the closure of the recreational fishery. It is Mr. Puckett's opinion, under Section 22, which was also amended in the same act, and from which redbfish and speckled trout were not excluded that the Commission does have that power to close. As far as something short of a closure such as modification of a quota affecting the creel limit or other measures that you might take Dr. Puckett does not believe they have that prerogative. Mr. Jenkins asked if they close it can they reopen it? Mr. Puckett answered basically, with regard to the commercial, he thinks here a closure would in effect amount to a delay of the beginning of the commercial year (the fishing year begins September 1). It would amount to a closure where the Commission would simply be delaying the beginning of that year until such time as biological data would indicate it would be appropriate to open it commented Mr. Puckett.

Mr. Jones asked that if it is found that there are no speckled trout, they really should not be harvested, and the freeze was much more detrimental than what was anticipated the Commission can close fishing to speckled trout. Mr. Puckett answered that is correct but it cannot be modified. Deputy Secretary McInnis concurred in Mr. Puckett reading of the ruling on speckled trout and redbfish. Dr. Hines asked if these are powers that do not go into effect until September 2 or September 7, 1990, how can this be used today. Deputy Secretary McInnis stated that the power that the Secretary has has been a long standing power and that it is sort of like a declaration of emergency that the species is not in a posture to sustain a harvest, whether it be recreational or commercial, you would close the whole harvest. This power extends to all species as Deputy Secretary McInnis appreciates it. Mr. Puckett explained that Section 22 actually predates the act, it was amended by the act and what it means to Mr. Puckett that when the legislature excluded redbfish and speckled trout from these broad powers that the Commission was granted for the finfish, they intended to allow emergency type closures for even redbfish and speckled trout. Section 22, before the effective date of this act, is on the books now and has been for years.

Mr. Puckett went on to advised the Commission on appointments and re-appointments of the Commissioners. The constitution provides that no Commissioner who has served 6 years can be re-appointed. Mr. Puckett stated that he had reviewed this basically to address those questions where a Commissioner could or could not be re-appointed and have broken it down to 4 situations. The first situation is the Governor's appointee. There is one commissioner that does not serve the 6 year term and instead is appointed to

serve concurrent with the Governor. This section clearly contemplates that if a Governor serves 2 full terms that the commissioner can be re-appointed to serve that full term amounting to 8 years, otherwise the mandate is for a 6 year term. Mr. Puckett advised that another situation he looked at was where a commissioner would be appointed to fill out the unexpired term of a particular commissioner and then, when that term expired, be reappointed to the Commission. This would fit within the 6 years provision. The other situations that were looked at was someone resigning to fill out the unexpired term of a commissioner and also someone resigning just to circumvent the 6 year provision and it was concluded that resignation was not contemplated by this. This would have to be a new appointment followed by a subsequent appointment to fit the meaning of the constitutional provision concluded Mr. Puckett. Chairman Pol asked if any members of the Commission had any questions. There being none Chairman Pol went on the last item under Other Business.

The last item to be taken up advised Chairman Pol is an item that Mr. McCall would like to have addressed relative to the airplane usage at Rockefeller. Mr. McCall stated that for several years at Rockefeller they had a small plane that was used approximately 200 hours a year or more in law enforcement and other projects around the refuge. This plane crashed about a year or so ago and after it crashed a move was initiated to try and get the plane restored and brought back to Rockefeller. This drug on for several months and Mr. McCall had several conversations with Secretary Van Sickle. On the way to the meeting in Monroe, Secretary Van Sickle told Mr. McCall that she had some good news and that a way had been figured out to get the plane repaired and brought back to Rockefeller. This was passed on to Mr. Ted Joanen and the personnel at Rockefeller by Mr. McCall and they were happy to hear this. Mr. McCall stated that he believes that the way they were planning on getting the plane repaired was to have a Vo-Tech school do the work and these negotiations between Ms. Bettsie Baker and the school went on for quite some time, maybe several months and fell through. The school apparently decided that they did not want to repair the plane or take the responsibility to repair it. At that point other avenues were explored as to how the plane could be repaired and get it back to its original service. People have gone to Mr. McCall that were deeply involved in the alligator program and said that they have no problem with using part of the money generated from the \$4.00 tag fee to use with the insurance money to restore the plane and put back in service. Mr. McCall advised that he has been told that there is approximately \$70,000 to \$75,000 of unused money in this fund at the present and at the same time getting another report from the main office saying that there is no money. Mr. McCall stated that he does not know who is right or who is wrong but does know a large number of people are very interested in getting the plane back into its original service and feel like it is a very valuable tool at Rockefeller with many uses. Mr. McCall informed those attending the meeting that he

would like to see, personally, the plane brought back and put back to what it has been used for in the past but understands there is quite a bit of opposition from certain people whom he is sure will be speaking out this morning. There is also quite a few people in favor of this and not just people in Cameron Parish pointed out Mr. McCall and informed those attending that he has been contacted by people in Vermilion, Lafayette, Lake Charles, and of course Cameron Parish to try and get the plane restored and put back into service. Mr. McCall stated that he cannot see why there is any problem using this money, if there is a surplus, and people have dedicated and penalized themselves and went along and increased the tag fee from \$2.00 to \$4.00. If there is surplus money and they want to use it for this purpose Mr. McCall sees no reason why this cannot be done. Mr. McCall stated that he is asking the Commission to consider allowing this to happen and getting the plane repaired and put back into its original service. Chairman Pol announced that before any discussion be entertained from the floor that Ms. Bettsie Baker address this issue

Ms. Baker stated that she does not know if there is a lot to be said but she would be very happy to address the issue. This aircraft was purchased in 1968 for \$15,569 out of Rockefeller money. The plane was wrecked last August rather severely and the department had originally tried to work with the Vo-Tech school to get it repaired free of charge by a cooperative agreement where they would agree to provide all of the labor and whatever as an educational tool to their students which would help them get certified and stay accredited and in return the department would get the aircraft repaired. Mr. Puckett and Ms. Baker worked up a cooperative agreement with the school and sent it to them and had significant conversations with them over the "ifs", "ans" and "buts", who pays for what, and who retains ownership of the airplane after the end of its repair. The memorandum of agreement or cooperative agreement sat over at the school for about 3 months and ultimately they decided that they could not do it advised Ms. Baker. The department has received bids to have the aircraft repaired and the lowest price for repair was \$32,800. Of this, the department has insurance proceeds of \$5,000. Ms. Baker stated that to her this is not a smart economical move to make, to have the aircraft replaced, repaired or whatever. Ms. Baker stated that she has discussed this with Deputy Secretary McInnis, and Secretary Van Sickle and they have looked at it, looked at the utilization, and all feel that the department has sufficient aircraft that can meet any of the aircraft requirement. A float plane was moved from the New Orleans area into the central section of Louisiana so that law enforcement purposes could be covered and is approximately 20-25 minutes away from the refuge and if there are flight requirements it is really easy for Mr. Chad Manuel and Mr. James Nunez and whoever needs law enforcement backup support to request the airplane and it will be over there on routine regular duty or whatever advised Ms. Baker. In regards to survey work and other kinds of requirements there is a pilot in Baton Rouge whose primary

purpose is to fly survey work. The Aviation Section is under Ms. Baker and there have been very few days when they have not been able to work out or coordinate aircraft schedules and pilots schedules. Ms. Baker stated that she can think only of 4 or 5 times when they have not been able to meet all the needs of the department and one of these was in the emergency situation after the freeze of Christmas this past year. Looking at this and looking at the fact that in the last year since the Piper Cub has been down Ms. Baker advised that she has had essentially 3 requests out of Rockefeller for aircraft, one of which they were allowed to rent a plane to do some particular purpose. Ms. Baker stated that she does not feel that the replacement of this aircraft is necessary and thinks that it would be imprudent from a financial perspective to encourage this. All the paperwork has been submitted and the plane as of now is in the possession of State Property Control Ms. Baker informed the Commission and as far as she is concerned it is a dead issue.

Chairman Pol commented to Ms. Baker that he thought one of the questions that the board would like to have answered is to clear up this matter about the money and is the money that Mr. McCall is talking available? In other words Mr. McCall says he is getting two conflicting stories of approximately \$75,000 and is that money available to use if the board so decides asked Chairman Pol.

Ms. Baker stated that she would address this to the best of her ability. Working a budget in state government is very different from working a budget or financial matters in a private enterprise. If you own a company and you say you want to spend money to do something you go ahead and do it pointed out Ms. Baker. When you work in state government every single line item that the department has expenditure authority for goes before the budget committee, etc., etc. Dollars for operating divisions are appropriated according to means of financing and with particular purposes in mind. It is very difficult from a revenue perspective to track every single dollar that comes into the department and see that it is allocated to its end purpose stated Ms. Baker. In fact if this was the case managing the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries would be very difficult. Within broad categories the department tries to track those monies that relate to commercial purposes; whether it is the commercial finfish industry or the shrimp industry, or the oyster industry, or the alligator industry the department tries to track those dollars because they revert back to particular individuals private pocket books. The current administration feels that it is not appropriate for recreational activities to support or subsidize commercial activities and the department has tried to make the commercial endeavors, which they regulate, bear the full freight for their operations stated Ms. Baker. In the budget process, dollars are appropriated for different programs according to what is required to do that. Ms. Baker stated that on tracking whether there is \$75,000 left over she did not know how to answer that question but could tell the

Commissioners that last year the Fur and Refuge Division spent every red cent that it had available to them through the budget process to spend, not only through the budget process but through the actual revenue received process they spent every red cent that they had available. Under these circumstances mineral income to Rockefeller is down significantly and when the needs of the refuge are to be met first and foremost in order to meet the needs of donation requirement Ms. Baker stated that she finds the request for refurbishing this aircraft to be extravagant.

Chairman Pol stated that he doesn't think the Commission still got the answer and would rephrase the question. Chairman Pol asked if by some circumstance the board votes to refurbish this airplane and we know that there is \$5,000 available from the insurance, will there be money available for the other \$25,000 approximately that will be necessary to put this airplane back in the air?

Ms. Baker answered that in order for this to happen someone needs to say we are not going to do \$25,000 of something else and it has to be in the appropriate budget category.

Mr. McCall stated that this does not really please him and what he wants to know is whether or not there is between \$70,000 and \$75,000 of unused money generated from the \$4.00 tag fee left that has not been used?

Ms. Baker stated that she does not have an answer to that question and she does not know.

Mr. McCall commented that it looks like the people in Baton Rouge ought to know if there is \$75,000 left over or if there is not \$75,000 and stated that \$75,000 is a pretty good sum of money.

Ms. Baker advised that she could tell Mr. McCall that there are excess dollars in the Conservation Fund that are being carried forward from last fiscal year into this fiscal year but to go back and identify which specific dollars they were attributed to she cannot do this right now as she does not have this information available.

Mr. McCall asked if there was anyone from the Baton Rouge office in this building today that can answer this question.

Ms. Baker stated that she doesn't think so and asked Ms. Wynettee Kees if she knew, which she did not.

Mr. McCall asked Mr. James Manning, Assistant Administrator of Fur and Refuge Division, if he had this information. Mr. Manning stated that the \$70,000-\$75,000 that is being mentioned here is a pretty good estimate of this prior year's budget, the alligator budget. The funds that were budgeted by the legislature, a total of \$371,000 for that program. The latest printouts of expenditures

from the past year of that approved budget there is somewhere in that neighborhood of those monies left over stated Mr. Manning. There is no way that last year's budget can be taken and do repairs to the plane because the budget died June 30 and as Ms. Baker said any funds used for refurbishing the plane would have to come from an existing budget or go through the process of amending the budget through the legislature if additional funds are available from the tag fees to add to the budget advised Mr. Manning. Mr. Manning stated that he understands that the alligator industry has taken a great interest in trying to get this plane back in service.

Dr. Hines asked Ms. Baker how much would a comparable plane cost? Ms. Baker answered between \$51,000 and \$55,000. Dr. Hines stated that since this plane, as of now, is under the control of State Property Division what would be the necessary steps for the department to reclaim this aircraft? Ms. Baker stated that the plane has been turned over for disposal through the property control process and would have to investigate the possibilities of reclaiming it. Dr. Hines stated that he guesses it could be reclaimed for a price because somebody else could and asked about the price. Mr. Baker stated that reclaiming for a price is correct and the minimum salvage value has been established for \$7,500 for the aircraft.

Chairman Pol asked if there were any other questions. Mr. Jones stated that he wanted to talk a little history of the airplane and asked who was going to fly the plane? Mr. Bettsie answered that this was a good question and that Mr. Guthrie Perry had been flying this aircraft but subsequent to the crash of this aircraft new aviation policies and procedures have been instituted within the department. The department has a new Chief Pilot and the department is of the opinion that professional pilots who work for the Wildlife and Fisheries as pilots should be the ones flying airplanes stated Ms. Baker. One exception has been put in place and Secretary Van Sickle is adamant, she would like Mr. Mike Windham to continue to be able to do his survey and research that he does but beyond that since the Aviation Section reports to Ms. Baker and as a result of this accident procedures such that only professional pilots fly aircraft have been put in place commented Ms. Baker. Mr. Jones stated that maybe the Rockefeller group could help him and asked who was planning on flying the airplane? It was noted that Mr. Guthrie Perry would be one to fly the plane. It was established that Mr. Perry was the one flying the plane when it crashed. Mr. Jones stated that he would like to ask Mr. Perry some questions. Mr. Jones stated that he flies an airplane but cannot remember how many hours, a good many though, and he is a tail dragger pilot. There are 2 kinds of tail dragger pilots, one that has ground looped already and the ones that are going to. It was established that the plane that was crashed was a Super Cub 150, PA18. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Perry what was he doing. Mr. Perry stated that on that particular day he was flying Charlie Dugas, waterfowl biologist from the Opelousas area. Mr. Dugas had come

to the office around 12 noon or a few minutes after to ask to do a survey of some water hyacinth problems in the Superior Canal Complex. Duck season was coming up and they have had some complaints about hyacinths in some of the areas and he was going to have to bring a crew in to spray the hyacinths and needed to know how bad they had spread, what kind of equipment had to be brought, etc. Mr. Perry and Mr. Dugas had gone up and had flown part of the survey and were coming back down in the Grand Lake area when the plane quit. Mr. Jones asked when Mr. Perry says "quit" what happened. Mr. Perry answered that they had done their pre-flight and so forth and explained what they were doing to Mr. Dugas. They then went up and were going across Grand Lake and making a bank in that area, fairly low level, turning to come back and the engine quit. At that time Mr. Perry tried the mags, the carburetor heat, switched tanks and so forth and started back up just for an instance and then it quit again but did get them back over the marsh. Mr. Perry stated that he was trying to get it back near a road and follow the road system back over to the airport then it went down. Just before it went down Mr. Perry had given Mr. Dugas the radio and told him to tell the location while he was doing what he had to do. The plane was brought in with full flaps and did flip over. No one was hurt. At that time the radio did not work and they had no walkie-talkie. The emergency ELT plus the one on the plane was working. Around 4:00 p.m. a helicopter was passing and picked up Mr. Perry and Mr. Dugas and brought them to the Rockefeller office. Upon arriving Mr. Perry called the Baton Rouge office first thing then called Mr. Leo Rodriguez who was the Chief Pilot at that time, then called the FAA, then called the insurance company, then went to the hospital for a checkup. The next day the aircraft was examined by Mr. Larry Kidwell, Baton Rouge, from the Aviation Section in charge of all state aircraft and Mr. Perry. The signal was picked up by somebody around Baton Rouge and maybe New Orleans because there was a short time when the department knew about the possibility of a plane down near Grand Lake.

Mr. Jones stated that he was more concerned with how it happened, was there a FAA crash report filed and if so what did they say was the reason for the crash? Mr. Perry stated that there was a report filed and as of right now the reports that he has in his possession have not established any pilot area causes. Mr. Jones stated that he was asking what caused it and was not placing the blame. Mr. Perry stated that he was informed of the possibility of low fuel in one fuel tank and when the plane was banking the uptake did not take it and it also had exhausted the header tank which is the spare tank on the cub. Mr. Jones stated that essentially what Mr. Perry is telling him is that the airplane ran out of gas. Mr. Perry stated that in talking with Mr. Kidwell, who was out there the next day, and pulled the fuel line off, no sir it was not out of fuel. Mr. Kidwell said that there was fuel up to the carburetor when he pulled the fuel line. Also present when the line was pulled was Mr. Leo Rodriguez, Mr. Gene Rackle, Mr. David Richard

and Mr. Perry. Mr. Kidwell's words were that Mr. Perry was a victim of circumstances. Mr. Jones stated that it sounds like Mr. Perry was low on fuel, had made high banks and did not have the centrifugal force or the flow through the line to draw it back into the engine and it sounds like Mr. Perry let the airplane run out of fuel to him. Mr. Perry stated that on one tank that was correct and he was not able to switch the another tank because of low altitude. Mr. Jones asked what the FAA said. Mr. Perry informed Mr. Jones that they have not said. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Perry if he was the one who would be flying the airplane if it comes back to Rockefeller. Mr. Perry stated hopefully so, yes. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Perry what kind of airplane tickets did he have. Mr. Perry advised that he has his private, working toward his commercial which is just about completed and has an instrument rating. Mr. Jones asked what was the Wildlife and Fisheries policy for pilot certificates. Ms. Baker answered same as FAA rating to the planes that they fly. Mr. Jones asked if they had to have a commercial license. Ms. Baker stated they do on the twin engine she believes but does not know right off. At one time the ATP was required for the bigger plane. Mr. Jones asked how much did the alligator program use an airplane. Mr. Ted Joanen answered that the alligator program uses an airplane in several different ways. One is enforcement, two is survey. The Cub was used for the whole program (nest locations, telemetry studies and enforcement work) when it first started. When the helicopter became available through commercial rentals Rockefeller was not as dependent on the Cub for the survey work and continued to use the Cub for enforcement and research. The Cub is used in a lot of the alligator research and enforcement endeavor, mainly for the alligator. The Cub is also used for search and rescue in south Louisiana and also for enforcement patrols on the refuge in general advised Mr. Joanen. It has proven valuable to Rockefeller in waterfowl enforcement work primarily looking for bait. The Cub has been used quite regularly for enforcement, for research, for survey, water pollution and search and rescue. At this time Mr. Joanen gave a brief background on Rockefeller. Rockefeller is in a remote area, 85,000 acres, 27 miles of shoreline, 150 miles of canals and quite a challenge. This is just Rockefeller and not the surrounding marsh commented Mr. Joanen. The aircraft greatly facilitated the job of maintaining patrols in a remote area and Rockefeller would certainly like to have it back stated Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Joanen if there weren't planes in New Iberia to check out complaints. Mr. Joanen stated that is right, it is 30 minutes by air if we get the complaint by 6 in the evening, locate the pilot, get permission from Baton Rouge get the pilot in the air and down to Rockefeller but you are normally looking at 2 1/2 to 3 hours. Mr. Jones asked if Mr. Joanen was suggesting that the department change their policy. Mr. Joanen stated that what is being said is with the plane at Rockefeller there is immediate regular response around 15 minutes. An aircraft is just another tool and it is used as a tool to do a better management job stated Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jones stated that he was wondering about utilizing

the enforcement plane. Mr. Joanen pointed out that this plane was a float plane and with the obstruction it would not fit in with biological survey work.

Mr. Manning pointed out that the Fur and Refuge Division has not put too many requests in for a plane over in the Rockefeller area since initial experiences, after the plane crash, of not getting a plane. Mr. Jones asked if what Mr. Manning was saying that planes were requested and did not get planes? Mr. Manning explained that after the plane crash they had great difficulty in getting a plane, a lot of times it was the weather, a lot of times it was the pilot on leave, a lot of times the planes were down. These people were going through Mr. Manning to request a plane and finally no more requests were made because they could not get one. Mr. Jenkins asked that at the time of the accident was there a procedure for authorizing flights. Mr. Perry answered yes they do. Ms. Paula Callais, Baton Rouge, was always notified before a flight but the day of the flight she was not notified, it was during lunch period. A procedure had been established that if there was an emergency flight on the weekends or if no one could be notified before the flight that they were to notify Ms. Callais immediately upon return. This was not the first time a flight had been made without notifying in advance pointed out Mr. Perry. Mr. Jenkins stated that the information that he had at the time the plane went down was that it was not an authorized flight. Mr. Perry commented that it was authorized through his supervisor Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Joanen if he had gotten authorization for the flight. Mr. Joanen answered no and that the request came in from the young man who wanted to observe the marsh. Mr. Joanen asked Mr. Perry, who advised him that he was available to fly. Mr. Perry could not get anyone in Baton Rouge during the lunch hour so he was going to call when he got back stated Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jenkins stated that he was just concerned about the procedures, the overall safety, and the way the whole airplane business is operated. It looks like it is going in 9 different directions without any standardization. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Perry if he was properly licensed at the time of the accident. Mr. Perry answered that he was licensed but found out after the accident that his medical had expired and as far as FAA was concerned he was legal. This information was given to the people who investigated the accident and they had no problems with it stated Mr. Perry. Mr. Perry believes that they called Ms. Baker and informed her of this. Also immediately after the accident Mr. Perry took the Class 2. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Perry how much total time did he have. Mr. Perry answered 975 hours. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. McInnis if Rockefeller is obliged to handle their own enforcement or is it done through enforcement division or how? Mr. McInnis stated that Rockefeller has about 3 employees that are charged with the responsibility for enforcement on the refuge. When requested, people will assist them but have over the years established a pattern of keeping the laws pretty strict on Rockefeller and there are few people who would have the audacity to violate on the refuge. Not to many people are

poaching on the refuge itself as Mr. McInnis appreciates it. Mr. James Nunez has been able to spend a good bit of his time working in coordination with the agents in the area off of the refuge and does a fine job especially with waterfowl work. When realigning the positioning of the float plane was reviewed Lake Charles was considered at the time but New Iberia was picked for the reason that it would have the ability to get to the Rockefeller area on a request basis. The pilot does fly regularly the Vermilion Bay area and has been requested to come to Calcasieu and has done so stated Mr. McInnis. In taking a look at this, Mr. McInnis commented that it may well be suited based on information that he is hearing today that this be considered part of the patrol area. The enforcement pilot is a professional pilot who was hired to handle the work in accordance with the procedures that had been established and not an enforcement agent pointed out Mr. McInnis. Mr. McInnis informed the Commission that he had some questions that he would like to ask Mr. Perry.

Mr. McInnis asked Mr. Perry if anybody else had flown any of the flights. Mr. Perry answered that there has only been a couple of other people flying the plane besides him, Tommy Prickett, Leo Rodriguez and himself. Mr. McInnis stated in doing the enforcement work it was indicated that flying time was 200-300 hours and asked Mr. Perry to narrow this down. Mr. Perry explained that total time on a plane per year was about 250 hours. The figures were in the neighborhood of 40 percent of the time of those hours were enforcement oriented, 30 percent was research, and a lesser amount was for management. Many of these hours were spent after 4:00 in the afternoon and on weekend in addition to Mr. Perry's 40 hour work week. Mr. McInnis asked Mr. Perry what was his job responsibilities. Mr. Perry informed Mr. McInnis that he was a research biologist with Fur and Refuge Division, involved with some fisheries investigations, aquaculture projects such as shrimp, redfish, catfish and crawfish, work with Mr. Joanen on the alligator program and that this is a small group at Rockefeller and work very closely together. There is no pilot biologist position that currently exist in the Civil Service statute even though the federal government does have one and if there was such Mr. Perry stated that he would have put in for such a position. Mr. McInnis asked for the breakdown again. Mr. Perry stated that somewhere in the neighborhood between 30-40 percent of the time was enforcement, 30-40 percent of the time was research, and then a lesser amount went to management, search and rescue, etc. Mr. McInnis asked about the different enforcement activities on the refuge specifically waterfowl. Mr. Perry explained the enforcement activities on waterfowl involved such activities as shooting ducks on the refuge, baiting of areas around the refuge and flying U.S. Fish and Wildlife personnel to help locate these baited areas. Mr. McInnis asked if there was some reason that the float plane or 210 would be unusable for these activities. Mr. Perry answered if the plane was available on a moments notice, when somebody is possibly on the refuge when they should not be, it would be no problem at all. A

lot of times these are low overcast days and with the Cub you could check it where the pilots could not get out of Baton Rouge or possibly even New Iberia stated Mr. Perry. Mr. McInnis stated that the gill nets, etc. in the Calcasieu Lake system seem to make up the bulk of the hours in the report and asked if there were any reasons why the float plane or the 210 could not be utilized for this. Mr. Perry commented that it could be used but you have to be going fairly slow and low to locate the nets because they are sunk. The 210 will not go quite as slow as the Cub but it possibly could be used. Mr. McInnis explained that the department has recently entered into an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where they have offered to transfer through the Office of Aircraft Services A Bell 47 helicopter and asked Mr. Perry if this would be suitable. Mr. Perry stated that it would work but would be a lot more expensive than 9 gallons an hour for fuel plus you are not paying an extra pilot at Rockefeller. Mr. McInnis pointed out that the department had a pilot on staff for the helicopter. Mr. Joanen at this time added that in the 60s' the Bell G4A was used to do the deer surveys and alligator surveys and early in the 70s' the Bell was used. This aircraft is no longer being manufactured, it is a small aircraft, short ranged and very limited in its travel distance. The aircraft has limited capabilities pointed out Mr. Joanen and just getting the aircraft into Rockefeller could be problems at times. Mr. McInnis asked why? Mr. Joanen stated that simply because it is a slow flight ship and flies in the neighborhood of 70-75 knots with the fixed float which detracts from its performance. They have since gotten away from this craft and moved to the 206 Bell Ranger for the surveys with a little cleanup work done by the Cub. Mr. McInnis commented that he was not suggesting that the helicopter be used for the survey work and thinks Mr. Joanen is correct in that the Bell Jet Ranger does an excellent job for the surveys. They are not trying to discuss whether or not the helicopter contract be replaced but trying to figure out whether there is justification for replacing a fixed winged aircraft on site at Rockefeller and trying to find out what uses they have on site that are particular to that particular aircraft that you could not use either the 210, the Partenovia, or one of the existing aircraft that the department already has available to us stated Mr. McInnis. Mr. Joanen stated that the reason he thinks the plane is so effective is the frequency that Mr. Perry is in the air with it. This is when they are seeing the illegal activities. The 210 is not in this area that often, the Partenovia is not in this area that often, although it can be called in if they are not tied up in Baton Rouge but the frequency that Mr. Perry is in the air with these other routine jobs this is when they are running across these other illegal activities such as baits, nets, and this is the value of this little aircraft sitting on site at Rockefeller commented Mr. Joanen. Mr. McInnis asked Mr. Perry, in a brief statement, tell what is unique to this aircraft that could not be accomplished with the aircraft that he has described (210, Partenovia, float or helicopter). Mr. Perry answered having a problem in the marsh and

walking away from it alive, the Cub was a slow flying airplane and was able to be set down. The 210 with the wheels up you could have slid it in. The Paternovia would have been a disaster. The helicopter could have been set down but would have been very expensive. The Cub is a low maintenance airplane and was able to bring it in with the slow flights, etc. Mr. McInnis pointed out that the enforcement uses that he has noticed in the report are predominately off of the refuge, the most hours that he is looking at are the shrimp, Calcasieu nets, etc. Mr. Perry stated it is the enforcement that made cases most of the time and the appearance of this airplane is very similar to the menhaden airplanes and as long as they were flying people did not know a 172 from a PA18 Super Cub. A lot of the shrimpers were real reluctant to come in to close as long as that plane was going. Now that it is not there they are fudging a little bit and they don't recognize an airplane with no wheels showing or one with two engines as a "pogy" plane (menhaden plane). All these menhaden planes are just like having other enforcement planes flying this coast as long as there is a small plane over here stated Mr. Perry.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. McInnis what else did he have because they have got to be moving on. Mr. McInnis advised that he had questions about the hours. Chairman Pol stated that he did not see where some of these were arriving at any conclusion and there is a meeting that has to be conducted. Chairman Pol asked if anybody else in the room had any thing to say.

Mr. Roger Vincent, representing Miami Corporation, addressed the Commission and feels the plane should be in place. If you take the 85,000 acres that the department owns, tie Miami's 160,000 to it and tie another 200,000 that surrounds it and you have half of million acre compound that certainly should justify an airplane stated Mr. Vincent. Mr. Vincent commented that Miami is not as devoted as Rockefeller is about getting around the marsh. Using airboats will scare away trespassers whereas a plane is silent. The plane is unique and available. Mr. Vincent commented that he had flown in the aircraft. Mr. McInnis asked when was this? About 2 years ago to look at Cameron-Creole advised Mr. Vincent. Mr. McInnis asked if Mr. Perry's logs would reflect this. Mr. Perry advised that he would check this out. Mr. Vincent stated that he does not think it was a joy ride on his part, Mr. Perry's part or Mr. Joanen's part. Mr. McInnis stated that this is just another policy that was apparently ignored. Mr. Vincent commented that he apologizes for this and stated that the Fur Council has requested that these funds be used for the aircraft.

Mr. Perry informed the Commission that he was incomplete in one of the answers that he gave a few minutes ago and added that in addition to the certifications and so forth he has been certified in the use of Loran and has been held up in court as an expert witness.

Chairman Pol stated that if there are no more comments to be made one way or the other he would entertain a motion from Mr. McCall or anyone else. Mr. McCall made a motion that whatever it takes be done to get the airplane back into the possession of the department, use the insurance money available and go ahead and use the alligator money that is left over to get this plane repaired and returned to Rockefeller. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hines. Chairman Pol stated that on this particular motion for the Commission to be polled and asked Ms. Baker to call role

Ms. Baker stated that she would like to just make one statement. Chairman Pol advised that the discussion was over with. Ms. Baker stated that she would just like to say that Secretary Van Sickle is in concurrence with the decision that had previously been made on the plane. Chairman Pol stated that he does not think this is a question of whether Secretary Van Sickle is in concurrence or not but thinks it is a question for the Board and Secretary Van Sickle has got to do what the Board tells her to do.

Ms. Baker then polled the Commission, voting as follows:

Mr. Houston Foret - Yes
Dr. Don Hines - Yes
Mr. Jimmy Jenkins - No
Mr. Bert Jones - No
Mr. Norman McCall - Yes
Mr. Pete Vujnovich - No

Mr. Vujnovich stated that the plane is 22 years old and is it worth the money to spend; he is opposed to spending the money to fix the plane.

The vote being 3 to 3 Chairman Pol broke the tie by voting yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4 yes and 3 no. Chairman Pol advised that the Commission directs the administration to do whatever is necessary to put this airplane back into service.

Dr. Hines asked Mr. McCall if for some reason the department could find an airplane for the amount of money that it would cost to repair this one and it be in better shape and could get it quicker, would this be satisfactory. Mr. McCall asked Dr. Hines to repeat the question. Dr. Hines pointed out that in other words it is going to be \$35,000 to repair the plane plus it might cost a few thousands to get it back so if a used plane could be found that is in good shape for this amount of money would this acceptable to Mr. McCall rather than repairing the plane. Mr. McCall stated that would be acceptable to him and would probably get one quicker that way.

Chairman Pol advised then the instructions to the administration would be to either repair or replace, whichever is the more feasible.

Mr. Jones asked if the department is going to change its aircraft policy, how the aircraft are used, or are they going to adhere to the Wildlife and Fisheries new policy? Chairman Pol stated that it is a matter for the administration to enforce their policy.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Ron Dugas gave a Report on the 1990-91 Oyster Season. A summarization of the resolution and declaration of emergency was given by Mr. Dugas.

Mr. Dugas reported that it was the time of year when the oyster season has to be set on the public oyster grounds and for a matter of definition "public oyster grounds" being those areas that the general public has access to, not to the areas that are set aside for leasing. In Louisiana there is some 2 million acres and Mr. Dugas pointed out the hatched areas on a map. With the exception of Calcasieu Lake and Sabine Lake, all the oyster grounds have been surveyed, the basic results being pretty well down in production. There is a limited resource available on virtually all the grounds. Two concepts have been looked at by the department. Delaying the season a little bit because it would be better for oyster relaying, when you move in the summer time you run into problems with heat and mortality and also the fact if you do go directly to commercial marketing there is a lower yield. After several discussions with several of the industry groups the department is going to recommend to the Commission (in the resolution) that it set the oyster season on October 3 on all the public grounds except the Sabine Lake area, Calcasieu area. The time frame for Sabine/Calcasieu is in November and the department has time to look at this area. Also the Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation which was fished last year will be closed this year. On all the remaining grounds it is recommended that the seasons be set one-half hour before sunrise on October 3, 1990, with the 3 small reservations also opening on October 3 (Bay Gardene, Hackberry Bay and Sister Lake) and close in 10 days. The remaining hatched area with the exception of Bay Junop and the two bays in that area would remain open, according to law, until April 1, 1991. There is a stipulation in the resolution which allows the Secretary the authority to close an area if there is significant spat catch which is a recruitment to the population; mortality in any one of these grounds; and the mere fact that fishermen would be fishing for shell purpose only.

The resolution and declaration of emergency were presented to the Commission for action.

A motion was made by Mr. Vujnovich that the Commission accept the resolution and declaration of emergency because the majority of the oyster people, at least 90 percent, are in favor of this. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION

1990 Oyster Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
August , 1990 - Rockefeller Refuge

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the public oyster seed grounds may be opened from the Wednesday following Labor Day until April 2, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the public oyster seed grounds and oyster seed reservations have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation have been determined, and

WHEREAS, it has been customary in some cases to rotate the opening of the season on the oyster seed reservation when biologically feasible, and

WHEREAS, since quantities of oysters are limited and increased effort in confined areas can cause higher mortality levels when water temperatures are high, leading to depletion of the resources, and

WHEREAS, recent research indicates an increase in yield may be gained if oysters are planted in high salinity water during periods when the water temperatures have begun to cool, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission does hereby set the season on the public oyster seed grounds in accordance with the Declaration of Emergency which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at this time no managerial action is recommended for the Calcasieu and Sabine Lake tonging areas, and these seasons will be addressed at a subsequent Commission meeting.

Warren I. Pol, Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

(The full text of the declaration of
of emergency is made a part of the
record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 (B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:433 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, hereby declares:

1. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the public oyster seed grounds and the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will open 1/2 hour before sunrise October 3, 1990.
2. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will close 1/2 hour after sunset October 12, 1990.
3. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring, or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival.
4. The Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will remain closed for the 1990/91 Oyster Season.
5. Oyster bedding will not be allowed in sacks or any other type of container, but will consist of shoveling back on the deck of the vessel.
6. The notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

This declaration of emergency is effective October 3, 1990.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

Dr. Jerry Clark presented the Black Drum Rule for Ratification at Friday's meeting. Mr. Clark advised that this was the final rule on black drum limits, daily take possession limits, quotas, and special permit requirements. The notice of intent was passed at least 3 months ago and was published in the Louisiana register. There have been no written or verbal comments received from the public. The only thing received was a resolution that was passed by the legislature asking the Commission to implement one management measure, that is already a part of the package, which

is the 16-inch minimum size limit and at the last Commission meeting this was done. Dr. Clark stated that all the Commission needs to do today is adopt the final rule.

Chairman Pol stated that this rule has been discussed on several occasions and asked if the groups have approved it. Dr. Clark advised that there were public hearings and at those hearings there was uniform support of this.

Chairman Pol asked for a motion that the Commission adopt the black drum criteria. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins that the Commission accept the black drum final rule. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the rule is made
a part of the record)

Rule

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Title 76 Wildlife and Fisheries Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 311. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (Pogonias cromis):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (August 1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

Mr. Bob Dennie presented a Resolution for National Hunting and Fishing day, September 22, 1990 to the Commissioners at Friday's meeting. Mr. Dennie pointed out that Commission member, Mr. Bert Jones, was National Honorary Chairman of National Hunting and Fishing Day in 1976. This year the National Honorary Chairman is Mr. Robert Urich and the theme is "We are Aiming to Help One on

One". Mr. Dennie asked the Commission to proclaim September 22, 1990 as Louisiana's National Hunting and Fishing Day which will help to secure the rich American tradition of hunting and fishing and to also insure a healthy future for the sport that so many of the citizens enjoy and presented Chairman Pol with the resolution for his signature.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion that they accept the resolution proclaiming September 22, 1990 as Louisiana's National Hunting and Fishing Day. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

LA'S NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition, and

WHEREAS, since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation programs. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the funding of state fish and game departments in all fifty states. They asked that they, themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the money collected be used to support state conservation agencies; in the last fifty years alone, these sportsmen have provided \$2.5 billion for conservation programs, and,

WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulated seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding population. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were fifty years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development, and

WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans, and

WHEREAS, through their publications and organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, Izzak Walton League of America and many others, hunters and fishermen have led the nation in the battle for a better environment and the wise use of our natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission here by proclaiming September 22, 1990, as National Hunting and Fishing Day in Louisiana. The Commission urges all of our citizens to join with the sportsmen-conservationists in a rededication to the wise use of our natural resources and their proper management for the benefit of future generations. Further, the Commission urges all citizens to take part in National Hunting and Fishing Day activities on September 22, 1990, to learn more about conservation and outdoor skills.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

At Friday's meeting a Progress Report on Aquatic Education and Results of Free Fishing Day were given by Mr. Paul Jackson. Mr. Dennie introduced Mr. Jackson to the Commission and advised that Mr. Jackson was the Aquatic Education Program Coordinator from Lake Charles. Mr. Jackson is assigned the duties of generating the Aquatic Education Program which is going to be very similar to the Hunter Education Program in that volunteers will be utilized to get the program off the ground. Mr. Dennie believes that this program is going to be the necessary ground work that is needed to save the fisheries in the state by educating the young people as to the resource, not only how to fish but also why we fish, why creel limits are set and also why we must save our habitat.

Mr. Jackson informed the Commissioners that aquatic education is a new program in the Education Section of the department. The program is 75 percent federally funded and 25 percent state funded through the D-J funds as amended by Wallop-Breaux in 1985. Wallop-Breaux allowed states, if they wished, to use up to 10 percent of the Wallop-Breaux allocation for aquatic education which Louisiana elected to do in 1988. The program began in November 1988 but no one was assigned to the program until April 1989 when Mr. Jackson was appointed Coordinator. The program officially started in July, 1989. From April 1989 to the beginning of July 1989, time was spent looking at programs in other states and developing a program for use in Louisiana and also writing the federal project narrative

for the program. The 25 percent state match comes from in-kind match which means that volunteer's time is utilized to reach this match. Every hour of documented time a volunteer spends on the program is equivalent to \$11.00 in state funds so therefore the program is used with volunteer time and federal aid money and therefore use no real state money for the program explained Mr. Jackson. There was nothing available in the state as far as aquatic education and during the first year the following was accomplished. Developed a guide for volunteers on how to put on a workshop. Worked with the Louisiana Conservationist on developing a poster and set it up as a center in the calendar issue of the July-August Conservationist 1989. Mr. Jackson then had 2,500 reprints made for use of the volunteers in the program. A brochure was developed that explains the basics of the program. An identification guide to common sport fish of Louisiana was developed and printed. This guide will be updated this year into a smaller version which can be carried easier and also enhance the graphics more. Approximately 25 instructors' workshops with church groups, youth organizations and sportsmen's clubs and over 200 volunteers have been trained as clinic instructors; have assisted with Project WILD to train Aquatic WILD facilitators and host teacher workshops; have developed an instructor and student manual to be used in the public and private schools in the state to teach aquatic education and these manuals should be in-house by next week; have incorporated LSU Sea Grants Wild Louisiana Program which is a program that was developed by Lyle Sonniat with Sea Grant to where it gets the class involved in making decisions on use of the coastal wetlands and explains the lost of coastal wetlands to students and also the things that can be done to prevent it. Mr. Sonniat also developed a presentation on the red fish and one on the management of the redfish, each having a video tape to enhance the program. The development of an education center has begun in Woodworth, Louisiana. Eighteen acres of land and 3 buildings have been obtained from the Office of Forestry through a land swap. The education center will consist of a rifle range, fishing pond and the 3 buildings will be converted into an education center. The center will be used to conduct hunter education and aquatic education workshops for teachers and volunteers and also to serve as a location to conduct fishing clinics as well as hunting related activities for the people in central Louisiana advised Mr. Jackson and added that these facilities will be funded through federal aid, the in-kind match will come from the value of the land and the value of the buildings. The project agreement has already been sent to the feds and expect to receive word back shortly. The work that will be done on the buildings and the range will be done by the Louisiana National Guard. Mr. Jackson advised that a handicapped program is starting to be incorporated with the schools through what they called Adapted P.E. where you go in and work with the teachers that teach Adapted P.E. to incorporate a little bit about fishing into their program. In Beauregard and Acadia Parishes aquatic education helped a Adapted P.E. program by sponsoring a fishing clinic.

During fishing week the program became involved with the Association of Louisiana Bass Clubs Youth Fishing Tournament as a co-sponsor. There were 9 of these tournaments conducted statewide on the Saturday of the 2 free fishing days with about 1,800 youngsters participating. Aquatic Education sponsors or co-sponsors 13 fishing clinics during National Fishing Week and 2 of these were co-sponsored with the U.S. Forest Service. There were approximately 1,500 individuals attending the fishing clinics during the free fishing days. The largest clinic was conducted in Bossier City on the Cypress Black Lake Recreation Area and co-sponsored with the Bossier City Baptist Church, Bossier City Recreation Department and Cypress Black Lake Recreation Commission. There were 450 kids, 200 adults and 65 trained adults as volunteers at the clinic. Plans for the upcoming year center on getting into the schools advised Mr. Jackson. The manuals will be ready and school workshops will be conducted. Other plans are to revise the I.D. publication; a paper vinyl covered ruler with an adhesive back that can be used by sport fishermen showing the different size categories for fish and also list size restrictions and limits on sport fish; develop a student activity publication for use by teachers in grades K-5 to stimulate interest in the younger kids in sport fishing; review publications that are out of print and try to slowly get some back in to circulation. Upon conclusion Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions.

Chairman Pol stated that the Commission would like to commend Mr. Dennie and Mr. Jackson for doing a good job on this program.

At Friday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark gave the Marine Finfish Freeze Report. Dr. Clark stated that this report was on the agenda for the joint meeting in Texas but due to illness he was not able to prepare the report and edit it. Dr. Clark apologized for the lateness of the report.

Dr. Clark reported that there were 2 parts of the report to be given today. The first part includes some statistical analysis of the monitoring data that was done and will go through May. Mr. John Roussel will give the second part of the report and stated that the department has been unable to do any significant analysis since the May data. Data from only one area of the state has been received for July so there is only complete data beyond this for the month of June stated Dr. Clark. The department has not been able to do any additional statistical analysis of this data and Mr. Roussel can explain how long it takes to get the data and why we are where we are explained Dr. Clark.

Dr. Clark informed the Commissioners that the report they have in front of them is basically the January through May data and asked that they turn to Appendix I pointing out that what has been done is that each of the three principle gears that are used (bag seines, gill nets and trammel nets) have been looked at for red drum and spotted seatrout for each month for 3 areas. The state

has been divided into 3 zones which are east of the Mississippi River, between the Mississippi and the Atchafalaya, and west of the Atchafalaya and analyzed the data by these 3 zones. Dr. Clark pointed out that as they go through this they will find that it takes 5 pages for each zone for each species for each of those five months and proceeded to explain what the package contained and some of the work that had been done. Basically what is trying to be done is to find out whether or not the freeze year was different from any other year advised Dr. Clark. On the surface this sounds correct and easy and also sounds like you would get a lot of information out of this but the problem is that in the January through May period there are relatively low catches in all years of red drum and spotted seatrout in all of the gears pointed out Dr. Clark. This is just not the right time, in the gear, to see these species. The right time varies by species and right now the June, July, August, September period is the period for spotted seatrout whereas the fall period, September, October, November is when you will see more catches of red drum. Dr. Clark then gave examples of catch rates and pointed out that statistically no difference can be detected in those years between the highest year and the lowest year. Summarizing what the data represents Dr. Clark stated that in particular the data says a lot about what the department has always been saying since the beginning when the first assessments were done. The data indicates that the number of fish that the department encountered in its gear declined as you move eastward. It was said from the beginning that the effects of the freeze appeared to be greater as you moved east. This data also seems to indicate this stated Dr. Clark. As we moved towards the east fewer red drum and spotted seatrout are encountered in the department's gear and in many cases and many instances with all the sets that were taken none of these animals were caught during January through May commented Dr. Clark.

Dr. Clark went on to comment that in the western zone, west of the Atchafalaya the generalization is not true. In many of the cases the data west of the river for red drum and spotted seatrout falls somewhere in the middle and in a couple of the pages, a couple of the zones and in a couple of the months it is the best data that the department has had. Dr. Clark informed the Commission that he is having to look at the data and draw out the broad generalizations that are in the data to give to the Commissioners. The department will be able to do a lot better, statistically, analyzing the data for June, July, August, and September because the catch rates in that time period, in the same gears that were deployed through January-May, often is 10 times what it is in January-May. If you look at January-May for the last four years pointed out Dr. Clark normal catch rates are only a tenth for spotted seatrout during the January through May period of what they are from the June through September period in the same gears in the same places.

Mr. McCall asked how is the gear deployed? Dr. Clark answered that the gear is deployed in almost every form of habitat from the beach inside; in near shore areas. None are done off the beach, some are done on the beach, but none are done in the Gulf and there are none done in the deep water areas of the bays or lakes. Shore sampling is what is done stated Dr. Clark. Almost no sampling is done in very shallow open marsh areas where the water is only a foot or two deep. These are basically beach areas from the beach inside in relatively shallow water and distributed throughout the coast. There are none in Lake Pontchartrain unless there are some for the Carnavor monitoring, very few in Lake Borgne, they pick up south of Lake Borgne and throughout the rest of the coast. In Calcasieu there are 6 gill net sites and in Barataria and Terrebonne there are many more Dr. Clark informed the group.

Mr. McCall stated if you have 6 sites in Calcasieu then what would be the next site coast wise, east or west? It would be at Southwest Pass and is basically a series of north-south transects answered Mr. Roussel.

Dr. Clark asked Mr. John Roussel to address the Commission. Mr. Roussel stated that unfortunately he does not have a lot more to add since May. There has been June data that has been looked at, but not in detail because it had to be looked at in aggregate form. One thing Dr. Clark did not mention that was in the report is that it actually gives catches not only of spotted seatrout but different sizes or ages of spotted seatrout so that you actually can look at catch of a 1 year old or a 12 inch spotted seatrout versus past years, versus catch of 2 years olds, etc. advised Mr. Roussel. The additional information that Mr. Roussel can give for June is aggregate form and is total catch per effort of spotted seatrout. For the sake of consistency Mr. Roussel presented the information based on the 3 zones that Dr. Clark outlined. In zone 1, east of the river, the June catch per effort fell right at the mean of the last 5 years. In the central part of the state it also was average but one of the unique things about the central part or Zone 2 was that the catches on the beaches in Zone 2 were higher than they have been over the last 5 years. It appears from the samples that the distribution of the fish this year appears to be different from what it has been in past years. West of the Atchafalaya River which includes Vermilion Bay and the Calcasieu area the June catches were below average. The department has available July information for only the Calcasieu Lake area and east of the river. For the Calcasieu Lake area in July the department recorded the highest catches ever. You have gone from a month where you are below average to the following month where there is the highest catch ever. East of the river in July the catch per effort was slightly below average. In summary, the picture east of the river for the 2 month span, June and July, shows an average catch in June and a below average catch in July. The central part of the state, with only June data, an average catch overall with a highest catch ever in the beach stations

indicating that you had some distortion in the distribution of the fish in the central part of the state. In Calcasieu Lake it went from a below average catch in June to the highest catch ever in the past 6 years for July. Another important piece of information that Mr. Roussel has been looking for ever since the freeze was an indication of what the spawn would be this year. One of the things that field crews do when they take fish is to classify them as gravid or running ripe so they can get an indication as to when these fish spawn. An ideal situation is when you have had a good salty year you will get April spawned spotted seatrout in coastal Louisiana and when there is an April spawn it tends to be a overall good year class for spotted seatrout. Mr. Roussel stated that this year in their field observations they did not notice any gravid or running ripe females until mid-May which is a preliminary indication that there was not an April spawn. However, in June in the bag seines, spotted seatrout young of the year were picked up that had to have been April spawned fish because they were to big to be May spawned fish. Therefore, there is some evidence that there may have been an April spawn in the Gulf and if you remember what Dr. Clark said there is no sampling in the Gulf because of the water depth and physical constraints advised Mr. Roussel. It is still to early to tell how good a spawn there was in April and what effect on the survival of that spawn is or how different the survival of that spawn may be because of the fact that the fish spawned in the Gulf as opposed to spawning in the estuaries is still a question but still encouraging commented Mr. Roussel. Another piece of information, which is not referred to in the report but is contained in an in-house report, is that department personnel went back and looked at fishery dependent data which is the data collected from the fishermen. The 1983 freeze was reviewed to see just what happened to fishermen's catches. This cannot be done for this year's freeze because there is a year's lag in collecting the data. It was found out that immediately following the 1983 freeze fishermen's catches were low, effort by fishermen was low and catch per effort was low and remained low until the fall of 1984 at which time it returned back to normal and in 1986 Louisiana had one of the best years on record. Mr. Roussel stated that this is not to say that the same pattern will follow through and he give some indication as to what happen after the 1983 freeze. The year immediately following the 1983 freeze, the estimate of the total recreational catch of spotted seatrout was 1.2 million fish which is a little over 2.2 million pounds of fish. The 10 year average catch is 5.3 million. In 1985 the total catch was 4.5 million fish and in 1986 it was 10.5 million fish which was way above any of the others years. The next closes year was down at 7 million. Mr. Roussel explained that again this is 1983 and there is a lot of hypotheses that can be put forth as to explain this and how the freeze affected the fishery. This information, pointed out again by Mr. Roussel, that is covered is totally separate from what is contained in the written report which is fishery independent. There are a lot of things that influence a

fisherman's catch other than the number of fish in the water. Mr. Roussel asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Roussel if he was concerned about the spotted seatrout fishery? Mr. Roussel answered at this point in time the data that is available actually through July he was not concerned and believes the key indicator, as far as the data will show for spotted seatrout, is the time period of April, May, June, July and August. If it was a salty year you could throw the March date in but this year there was not a salty year and salinity has a great influence in that early spring time commented Mr. Roussel. There is no great indication that things are abnormal with spotted seatrout. The key time for red drum is September, October, November and December and the department does not have that data yet. From the scientific information that Mr. Roussel has in front of him he is not overly alarmed. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Roussel why he thought it took a couple of extra months to catch a commercial quota after the freeze. Mr. Roussel stated that it could have been the fact that there was the freeze and there is no doubt that there was some mortality from the freeze. There is also no doubt that the distribution of the fish was drastically affected. Mr. Jenkins advised that when they went to the Texas meeting Texas gave a comparison of the 1983 freeze and the freeze this year and basically said it was as bad as 1983. They were concerned enough to change the bag limits or the size limits on the recreational fish and here Louisiana is saying there is nothing wrong over here stated Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Roussel commented that he is not saying that nothing is wrong and hopes this is not the impression he is giving. The Commissioners stated that this is the impression they are getting. Mr. Roussel stated that the Commission asked him to give them his opinion and was answering from a standpoint of whether he thought the Commission or department had to take action right now. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Roussel how long did it take him to get the data and get back and look at it. There will be at least a month's lag advised Mr. Roussel. Mr. Vujnovich advised that he had been out and had seen plenty of trout but they were small. Mr. Roussel offered the invitation to the Commissioners that he is willing to sit personally or collectively with them and go through the report in detail. Mr. Jenkins asked if any creel surveys were being done this summer. Mr. Roussel stated that they have scheduled to try and do a one weekend survey but have not selected the date. The department does not have the manpower to have an ongoing creel survey but the one weekend creel survey is being planned to coincide with a weekend that Texas is conducting theirs. The survey will have to be done at least by early September.

Chairman Pol stated that what he does not understand is that the Commission goes to Texas, who has all their preparations made and informs Louisiana that the freeze was a catastrophe; in Louisiana this has never been said yet Chairman Pol has personally seeing fish up and down the bayou dead; Texas changes things right away

but in Louisiana they are saying there is plenty of fish; we go out and fish and catch only 2 fish. Chairman Pol advised that he had sent Mr. Mike Cook 2 articles out of the Houston papers a couple of weeks ago and both of the Sports Editors for the large Houston papers say that the speckled trout business over there is a catastrophe and that something has to be done and yet here is Louisiana 1 month away from having the gill net season and the Commission is being told that there is nothing wrong. Chairman Pol stated that he just does not understand and Mr. Roussel says he is not telling the Commissioner there is nothing wrong but the way he hears him talking you are telling them there is something wrong. Mr. Roussel stated that he can only base his statements on the data that he has available to him. Chairman Pol asked if they took into consideration the data that was received from fishermen because there were a bunch of people right there that fished and they will tell they are not catching any fish.

Deputy Secretary McInnis commented that if he remembers correctly and perhaps Chairman Pol, Mr. Jenkins or Mr. McCall could help him remember, Texas also had a February freeze which they took into consideration in their calculations which Louisiana did not have. Chairman Pol stated that they had also said that was not catastrophic like the deep freeze they had. Mr. Jenkins stated that his recollection that they did have it separated on a chart and the combination of those 2 freezes were probably worst than the 1983-84 freeze either one of them might have been slightly less than the 1983 freeze but they considered each of the freezes bad and the year as a whole very bad. Chairman Pol commented that it was just his personal opinion that if they open the season and the fish are really as decimated, as he feels like they are, and really get into a lot of trouble because all the fish they are catching now are the ones that get through the gill nets then there is going to be some reckoning as far as Chairman Pol is concerned. Dr. Clark stated that as he understands it that 2 things have happened in Texas. They had the 1983 freeze and they had the most recent freeze. If they are going to say that they had a catastrophe this year their total response to date of their catastrophe this year is that they have increased a minimum size limit on spotted seatrout by 1 inch. This is not fair in some respects but it is a fact stated Dr. Clark. Chairman Pol stated that they do not have to make a response because they do not have gill net season over there, this is a sports fish over there and explained that what is beginning to worry him is that in one month a season will open on the nets and if Louisiana is in trouble what is going to happen? Chairman Pol commented that he realizes that we cannot compare Texas, but on the other hand we cannot compare Texas with the loss that Louisiana got because of the gill net season which Texas does not have. Texas does not need to worry as much as Louisiana does because they are not going to, within a month, net these fish. Dr. Clark stated that he is not sure that this is entirely a fair characterization of the situation either because a spotted seatrout does not care who kills it if it is dead and what is important for

biology is how many dead spotted seatrout there are. Dr. Clark stated that there is another thing going on that he would like to comment on. There was a freeze and there was a lot of dead spotted seatrout and the information that the department has is the information that they have and it is all the information that they have. It is scientific information and like all other scientific information there are type 1 and type 2 statistical errors, you reach a conclusion and there is a possibility that you are wrong one way or another. It is possible that the freeze had a greater impact on spotted seatrout than the department has been able to detect but what Mr. Roussel has said, and Dr. Clark agrees, is that the department has the data that they have and that is all that they have and they have to reach conclusions on the basis of this.

Another issue that has not been discussed are the tools that are available to deal with the situation. If the legislature in Louisiana treated red drum and spotted trout like they treat all other species, in other words gave this Commission authority to make changes in, things like bag limits, commercial quotas, minimum size limits, Dr. Clark believes that he would be before the Commission today with perhaps a set of recommendations that on a preliminary basis some of these might be put in place for a year to reduce the risk, but this cannot be done because the legislature says the department and Commission cannot do this. The only thing that the department and Commission can do is to use their blunt instrument and close the fishery but with the data that Dr. Clark has in his hands, right now, he is not recommending closing the fishery. Mr. Jenkins asked what would it take to make Dr. Clark recommend this closure and when. Dr. Clark advised that what he would like to do is get the rest of the information from the summer, June, July, August and September data, and if that data is different than what is in front of them today and if the spotted sea trout does not show up in the summer data and the red drum do not come up in the fall data then Dr. Clark will be one of the first people to come back to the Commission and recommend that they close the fishery. Mr. Jenkins commented that as soon as it can be determined that things are bad with the spotted seatrout the Commission should do something immediately on the seatrout. Mr. Jenkins asked if the Commission had the authority to do something separate as far as the emergencies are concerned on the spotted seatrout and red drum or do they have to be kept together. It was determined that they do not have to be kept together. Mr. Jenkins explained that what he was saying was if it is determined next month that the spotted seatrout are in trouble to the extent that it should be totally closed (recreational, commercial and the whole business) it should be done separately and apart from red fish which there may not be any information on until November or December. Mr. Jenkins stated that he for one would like, and if it is necessary put it in the form of a resolution, that the department does this and that they stay on top of this and get reports as soon as they can. Dr. Clark advised that he and Mr. Roussel were talking about this the other day and it would probably take at least 2 weeks after the end of each month to get all the

data off of field sheets on to the computer and in Baton Rouge. This is a lot of data, there is a lot of sets spread all over the state. With full-time on this it would take at least a week after this to do the analysis advised Dr. Clark. The June and July information would be ready for the September Commission meeting and there might be some portion of the August data in hands, but as far as getting any statistical analysis there would be none. Dr. Hines asked what percentage of the 1.25 million pounds of speckled trout are caught in September by the commercial fishermen. Mr. Roussel stated that he does not have that information available but basically the commercial catch goes like this: When it opens in September they make some fairly good catches then catches begin dropping off in October, November, December, and January. The bulk of the quota is caught the following spring. Dr. Hines commented that no major catastrophe will happen by the amount of fish caught in the early part. Mr. Roussel stated this is what the normal distribution of the catches would indicate this to be the case. Mr. Jenkins stated unless those are the only ones left. The data indicates that the largest catch would be in February, March and April. Mr. Vujnovich advised that the water is still very sweet in the Barataria Bay estuary and he is hearing people say that in the Gulf there is an abundance of speckled trout and red fish. Mr. Foret was asked what his assessment was on this. Mr. Foret commented that it would be kind of a shame as it is ready for the commercial to open. If something needed to be done Mr. Foret believed it should have been done in April or May during spawning. Mr. Foret is at Coco Marina almost every day of the week and they have about 5 or 6 fishermen over there. On some days they make their limit and on some days they just catch 2 or 3 specks. Mr. Foret stated that this year was an unusual year from what he has seen. Every year that you see a lot of shrimp you will catch less speckled trout or less any kind of fish and out in the water right now you have better bait for them to feed on than what you can give them and this has a lot to do with this in Mr. Foret opinion. Mr. Jenkins stated that the freeze happened in December, the speckled trout commercial quota went on until May and he does not think it is a matter of shutting down commercial or recreational or anything else. Mr. Jenkins has talked to sporting people and he has not had the first one to tell him that it is anywhere close to normal. Mr. Foret agreed with Mr. Jenkins that it was way below normal and stated that there was big fish kill, a lot bigger than what people want to recognize. Mr. Jones stated that what Mr. Foret just said is the answer that he wants to hear. That there has been a tremendous fish kill and it needs to be measured so that the resource can be protected so that next year there will be plenty to catch and the year after that, etc. Let's not exhaust the resource if it is in trouble, established this and let's go commented Mr. Jones. Mr. Foret stated that there was more damage made with the one week freeze in December and early January than all the commercial fishermen, all the sports fishermen did in 5 years. Mr. Jones stated that this needs to be assessed as the issue.

Mr. Jenkins stated that in light of the facts that everybody at the meeting is concerned and if the Commission had the opportunity just like Dr. Clark explained there would be some changes made today but since there is not the opportunity the Commission is forced with drastic measures of either saying it is on or it is off whereas it may not be drastic enough to cut it off he made the motion that the Commission instruct Dr. Clark to report as timely as possible and as soon as possible on the catch situation of the spotted seatrout and red drum. The full Commission agreed with Mr. Jenkins motion. Dr. Clark stated that all of the members of the Marine Fisheries Division who have supervisory responsibilities to make sure that the wishes of the Commission are carried out are attending this meeting and have heard you and he heard you and will to the extent possible accelerate the data collection, data handling, analysis and will prepare for each of the succeeding Commission meetings the data that is in hand at that time. Chairman Pol reiterated to those attending the meeting it is not the intentions of the Commission to differentiate between sports fishing and commercial fishing. The Commission is only worried about one thing and that is the quality and quantity of the speckled trout. If it is not there it is going to hurt both sides pointed out Chairman Pol and stated they are not saying what is fair and what is not fair only saying that if the fish are not there action should be taken.

Dr. Clark commented that he would like to make one point and reiterate a point that he has made. If the Commission had different tools at its disposal Dr. Clark, today, would be making recommendations to reduce the harvest. The Commission and Secretary do not have these tools and the only tool that they have is to close the fishery stated Dr. Clark and this tool he is not recommending the Commission exercise. Chairman Pol advised that they understood this.

A Recap of the 1989-90 Budget Year and 1990-91 Budget Forecast was presented at Friday's meeting by Ms. Bettsie Baker. Ms. Baker advised that she was passing out 2 separate documents that will be explained and budgeting in state government is very different from private enterprise. Mr. Baker reviewed the sheet on revenue comparisons which showed year to year various sources of revenue to the department. The Conservation Fund came in right on target as was expected at about \$22 million dollars. The Rockefeller Refuge Fund came in way, way, way low and had originally projected \$3.2 million dollars in mineral income but year to date only \$948,000 has been collected, which is less than one-third of what was in the budget. In the budget process a reasonable rational budget process has been implemented but starts in October. Everything has to be submitted to the Budget Office in December so revenue forecast is done based on historical trends and prior year data and at that time there was no information as to what would be forthcoming in the current fiscal year explained Ms. Baker. This put the Fur and Refuge Division in a very difficult position

because their primary source of funds is Rockefeller money and when you get one-third of what is expected it creates some problems not only for the refuge but also for other individuals in the Office of Wildlife because of how budgets are prepared. Going on down the line, Ms. Baker pointed out that the next line item was interest income off of the Rockefeller Trust Fund and does not want the Commission to misunderstand its representation. It is income to the department but as a result of laws enacted 2 years ago the department does not have access to the interest income with certain exceptions. It is used for land acquisition of wetlands and uplands; dedications to the Rockefeller Scholarship Fund; McNeese University continues, through this year, to receive \$350,000 of this income to the department which is used to be able to spend but when the law came into effect to raise the trust fund from \$20 million to \$30 million there was a prohibition on the department for use of the money for routine operations; Marsh Island Refuge Fund has slipped in years but has stabilized about \$250,000 to \$300,000 in income and likewise the Marsh Island interest income, both funds 1 and 2, is not available to the department for the same purposes that these funds are being increased from \$5 million to \$10 million dollars. The total income received for the department, year to date, about \$33.8 million dollars and approximately \$30 million dollars has been available to support departmental operations.

Ms. Baker reviewed the sheet giving the historical tracking and future presentation and pointed out that the first column on the left is actual performance from 1988-89. The department is divided into 3 operating units which are: 1) Office of Secretary which encompasses Support Service, Law Enforcement, I&E, Marketing Board and Fur and Alligator Council, 2) Office of Wildlife which encompasses Game Division, Habitat Conservation and Fur and Refuge Division, 3) Office of Fisheries is Saltwater Fisheries and Freshwater Fisheries. Fiscal year 1989-90 the department had a budget of about \$38.5 million dollars and of this in terms of actual expenditures the department spent approximately \$35 million dollars. There was only \$30 million in incoming revenue and approximately \$5 million that carried forward from the year before principally as a result of shell dredging revenue because of the change in the shell royalty rate there was significant surplus year to year but the department does not anticipate that this surplus will carry forward. Ms. Baker stated that the department was fairly well on target, year to year, and expenditures, year to year. Moving to budget 1990-91 the department has tried to come forward with reasonable budget expectations and expect this to be o.k. with the one exception of Rockefeller. It is presumed that this past year's mineral income problem will continue into the existing year that the department is in and all years forward. The wells are very old and the gas market is very bad thus production is very low advised Ms. Baker. Approximately \$2 million dollars of the Conservation Fund will be carried forward and goes to support activities in the forth coming year and in addition to this

the department has a couple of new expenses that are not really reflected in this report that will have to be absorbed, some of which the department will get help with commented Ms. Baker and explained that the Governor has put in place 3 different pieces of activity that significantly affects salaries. One is an adjustment to long-term Civil Service employees who have received no benefits as result of a change in the Civil Service system that was enacted on July 1, 1987 and about one-third of department employees will have a salary increases as a result. There was a 4 percent cost of living increase that was imposed on top of this which will affect every employee as well some market grade adjustments in the computer areas because statewide there has been trouble as a state with the Civil Service system of getting people in the computer ranks. The impact of this will be approximately an additional \$1 million dollars in expenses on top of the proposed budget explained Ms. Baker and of this additional \$1 million dollars in expenditures the department has requested General Fund money and has been promised a portion of this somewhere in the neighborhood of \$400,000 - \$500,000 with the department carrying the balance.

Ms. Baker pointed out that in the Office of Secretary, particularly in Enforcement, moving forward from 1989-90 to 1990-91 a law passed, HB 1265, which makes a change in how Class 1 Violations are handled. Historically Class 1 Violations have gone through the District Attorney's office for processing, prosecution, payment, etc. The law changed this from going to the District Attorney's office to being handled administratively by the department, if people so choose, wherein a civil penalty would be remitted back to the department based on whether it is a first offense, second offense, third offense. This change will enable the department to add 18 new enforcement people, 2 per region, on roll and will move it up to 246 people in enforcement. The department has an obligation for these positions and it will be very interesting to see what is received in terms of these administrative fees for these Class 1 Violations. There is no authority as to what the dollar value will be associated with this but we have estimated between \$900,000 and \$1.1 million dollars to be received in revenue stated Mr. Baker. The department had hoped that civil penalties would prove to be a revenue generator but year to date it has costs lots of aggravation for which the department has received nominal amounts of money. Hopefully this administrative procedure will not fall in the same ranks but in any event the 18 new positions will be funded commented Ms. Baker.

On a going forward bases there were 3 other changes that Ms. Baker brought to the attention of the Commission. The I&E Division received 3 new positions principally for the television production end of thing. The television magazine has been doing great but putting pressure on the people who have been doing it and have been working long hours to get it produced. A couple of new people have been hired and a individual to assist with merchandising to assist revenue to that section has been hired. Another major change is

the budget includes 4 new positions for alligator management in the Fur and Refuge Division. All things considered, it will be tight and the department is anticipating in this coming year another revenue problem expecting approximately \$2.1 million dollars short advised Ms. Baker. Meetings have already been held with Division Chiefs to accommodate this shortfall and the department has no intention of laying off people but feels compelled because of the problem with Rockefeller funding that the department should act pro-actively to handle the situation and not be the victim of whoever spends it first gets it. This is a very poor management technique. The department has met with its people and outlined that there is approximately \$2.1 million dollars that is being sought and looking for creative solutions and commitments from individuals as to how to resolve this. There is a meeting next week to hopefully wrap this up advised Ms. Baker.

Mr. Jenkins asked Ms. Baker about the budgeted expenditures and if he was correct that \$38.7 million dollars was budgeted and \$34.8 was spent and this year \$38 million is being budgeted. Ms. Baker stated that this was correct. Mr. Jenkins also asked about the actual for Seafood Promotion which about doubled and wanted to know why they are re-budgeting \$700,000. Ms. Baker answered that they had budgeted \$607,000 and only spent \$483,000 and re-budgeting \$700,000 for various promotional activities that they have and are under the jurisdiction of the Seafood Promotion Board. Mr. Jenkins asked about shell dredging income for next year and why it was not in the budget. Mr. Baker advised that there is \$700,000 in the budget and explained that conservative estimates have been done and she had anticipated that shell dredging would be out the window in the near future so the 3 year forecasting horizon for shell dredging showed it going away at the termination of the contracts which are September 26, 1991. Knowing this and knowing that the mineral is a fixed mineral and because the dredging companies probably would not be keeping up their equipment as well there would be more down time, etc. Ms. Baker projected a decrease revenue. For this coming year \$1.2 million dollars was projected in shell income. The department sponsored a bill to swap that income so that the General Fund would be the recipient of these monies and in return the department would receive a certain amount of General Fund money, dollar for dollar. The department felt that this would assist in eliminating the conflict of interest that it has in managing wildlife resources but yet participating in the regulation of an industry which has potentially disastrous impacts for fish and wildlife. The department had a bill introduced that got through both committees but it could not be gotten off the Senate Floor for final approval so it died. In any event, in the budget the General Fund had swapped out \$1.2 million dollars but as a result of 2 things: 1) the fact that shell permits were disallowed in the lake because the Department of Environmental Quality denied their Water Quality Permits the bulk of the income from shell revenue went away immediately, 2) leaving the department not contributing anything to the treasury but obligated to get some

General Fund money back. The Budget Office did not like this and reduced the amount of General Fund money that the department is to receive by the amount of the reduction of shell dredging income. The department will be getting approximately \$700,000 in shell income from the central coast area but in addition to this the department will be getting General Fund money to support the Aquatic Weed Program and Law Enforcement. Mr. Jenkins asked about the shell mitigation that is owned. Ms. Baker advised that Mr. Puckett, Ms. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Dejohn out of the Attorney General's office and the Governor's office and herself will be meeting next week to talk about shell mitigation. Mr. Jenkins stated that they had better talk fast, they are hauling all those shells away. Ms. Baker stated that Secretary Van Sickle, Mr. Puckett, Mr. Kasprzak and herself have discussed this and talked about mitigation being made with limestone rather than reef shell or clam shell that way it would not be construed as "blood money". If a like amount of limestone can be obtained, it is available, the companies cannot say this is already sold for contract and feel that this is a viable position for the department to take. Mr. Puckett advised that the meeting next week will not be on shell mitigation but it is related to shells. Mr. Puckett stated that he has been working with the people on the shell mitigation. Mr. Jenkins asked how much was owed in terms of dollars. Mr. Puckett stated that if you went back to 1982 you would be looking at 300,000 cubic yards. Mr. Jenkins advised that 300,000 cubic yards market value would be about \$5 million dollars. Mr. Puckett advised that this was another issue and he was not going to lead the Commission to believe that the department may be able to collect dollars. Dr. Hines commented that all the roads on the wildlife management areas need shell. Mr. McCall asked if they had that much shell in the stockpile. Ms. Baker stated that she was talking with the shell companies and they had 2 stockpiles set aside which were committed for highway construction on Highway 90 in eastern Louisiana and is sure it has been used because they are not dredging anymore. Ms. Baker commented that the budget essentially year to year is standstill with the exception of the new law enforcement agents, the three positions in I&E and the 4 positions in Fur and Refuge.

Ms. Baker stated as a additional topic the Muzzleloader Licenses for last year were closed out and there were 3,791 licenses sold with Avoyelles, Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Franklin, Jefferson, Livingston, Morehouse, Richland, Tangipahoa and West Baton Rouge being the parishes with the most sales.

On the sale of the properties in New Orleans Ms. Baker informed the Commission that the 2 properties were up for sale on the 26th of July. Several people from the department went to participate. The parking garage sold for \$220,000 and the main building did not sale. There was a great deal of interest in how much asbestos was in the building, the department did not have a good answer and there were no bids offered on that building. Ms. Baker has met

with Facility Planning and is meeting next Friday an asbestos abatement company to evaluate what the cost of abatement will be and at that time will look to see if modification is required in the appraisal value. The building will be put up for sale again but the department will not go back through the Sheriff's office and believes it will take sealed bids advised Ms. Baker. Mr. Jones asked if not the original thinking was to take a bid on the parking, a bid on the building and take both. Ms. Baker stated it was. Mr. Jones asked now that a bid has been accepted on the parking lot has the value on the building been reduced by removing the parking lot from it. Ms. Baker answered that it could be done either way and at the time the sale went down she had talked with Secretary Van Sickle and Deputy Secretary McInnis and it was felt that a bird in the hand was better than none and the individual who purchased the parking garage if someone wanted to buy it back from him that is always a possibility. Chairman Pol asked why sealed bids instead of open bids. Ms. Baker answered to simplify the process and hopefully expedite it because there was not much of a response from the public auction. Dr. Hines asked if we were going to sell the building as asbestos clean. Ms. Baker answered no, you just want to get a fair estimate of what removal would cost and then you identify do you reduce you minimum sale value or not based on this information. The asbestos in the building is relatively well contained and the individuals that Ms. Baker is going to New Orleans with next Friday are experts in this and have done it at several other state properties. Talking with them over the telephone Ms. Baker stated that you are talking about \$15,000 - \$30,000 to have this asbestos removed. Concluding, Ms. Baker advised that she will report back to the Commission when the information on the New Orleans property is forthcoming.

Chairman Pol commented that before getting into the Secretary's Report he would like to ask Mr. Puckett a question and stated that the Commission has been trying to get a decision out of Mr. Puckett about the representation of the attorney for the Commission and when will he be ready to make a report. Mr. Puckett advised that he has a draft that he is prepared to give to the Commission and did bring copies with him. Mr. Puckett has not been able to share this draft with Secretary Van Sickle yet but has shared it with Deputy Secretary McInnis. Mr. Puckett recommended that the Commissioners review the draft and it be discussed at a later meeting. Chairman Pol stated that he agrees with him.

At Friday's meeting the Secretary's Report to the Commission and Legislative Recap was presented by Deputy Secretary McInnis. Deputy Secretary McInnis asked Dr. Clark to give a recap on the reorganization that took place in the Office of Fisheries. A handout was given to the Commissioners. Dr. Clark advised that the handout was a copy of a memo that was sent to each member of the Office of Fisheries indicating the reorganization that took place and it is basically a 2 page memo and 3 pages of organizational charts representing the new organization in the Office of

Fisheries. The principle change is that a new division has been created called the Research Division. One of the first things that happened after Dr. Clark became the Assistant Secretary, Office of Fisheries, was that the process began immediately working on fishery management plans. One of Dr. Clark's goals as a manager is to try and get to problems before they become problems. There are around 10 fishery management plans due out in the Office of Fisheries in about the next 12 to 18 months. What Dr. Clark did when he looked at the organizational plan was to create the Research Division because form should follow function and the function of the Office of Fisheries is to provide good fisheries management. The bases of good fisheries management is good science and good scientific analysis. There were scientists in the Office of Fisheries but in the Inland Fisheries Division and the Marine Fisheries Division they often did not communicate and had separate skills. Also they were working on other problems associated with Inland Fisheries and Marine Fisheries and were not focused on science in some cases. The director of the research in the Inland Fisheries Division was also supervising a lot of people on a day to day management in the field and this kept them from being focused on their function which is research so a research division was created stated Dr. Clark. The other characteristics of change was linear management that had developed over the years. The linear authority was done away with such that the administrator is in charge of the major programmatic elements. The Research Division was created just after the first of the year and working with the new budget to make sure that the budget reflects the new divisions concluded Dr. Clark and asked for questions.

Deputy McInnis stated that this is a recap of what has taken place and had begun some time ago. Because of discussions that have taken place at some of the Commission meeting and at the legislature as well, the department wanted to make sure that there was a recap of what had taken place.

Deputy McInnis advised that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) conference will be hosted by Louisiana this year in New Orleans, Louisiana. The conference will start September 7th and goes through Wednesday September 12th. The Commission meeting in September will be in New Orleans so as to give the Commissioners an opportunity to interact with people coming in for the IAFWA and Deputy McInnis urged the Commissioners to attend if possible.

The next item on the Secretary's report was the Commissioners were invited to join the department on August 15th at Pointe-au-Chien for a dedication on the ground. This is a cooperative project with another agency and Fur and Refuge Division will be coordinating the activities. Deputy Secretary stated that if the Commissioners had an opportunity to join them down there he hopes they do so.

Deputy McInnis advised that following right behind this on August 20th the Game Division will be hosting a dedication at Spring Bayou starting at 10:00 a.m. Spring Bayou is in the Avoyelles areas stated Deputy Secretary McInnis.

On August 27th in New Orleans in conjunction with the President's Domestic Policy Council there will be hearings held in the New Orleans area. There will be 3 hearings held nationwide and Louisiana is very fortunate that New Orleans was chosen as one of the sites. This hearing will involve 5 groups of panels that will present testimony to the Domestic Policy Council involving the individual that has been appointed by the President to head this up who will be in New Orleans at this time. The 5 panels are congressional, local and state government, industry, conservation groups and scientific community. This is a well rounded group that will be addressing a lot of issues that will interact with the "no net loss" policy of the President stated Mr. McInnis.

The next meeting that will be held is one that is going to be of a much more controversial nature stated Deputy Secretary McInnis. On August 30th the Gulf Council in New Orleans and Lafayette will be holding hearings to take public testimony on what has been referred to as the "FEDS" regulation, fish excluder device. This is a very controversial and deals with the bycatch issue which is something of serious concern to the shrimp industry as well as finfish and reef fish industry. In an effort to come up with a long range viable plan that will enable all of these fisheries to continue, they are coming up with some proposals advised Deputy Secretary McInnis. There were some 60 proposals submitted and only one of which met the criteria that was established by the Gulf council. The proposal is very drastic and Deputy Secretary McInnis gave a sampling. Basically what the proposal will require is a closure from the beach out from May 1 to July 31 for shrimping Gulf wide. It will require a modified excluder device being the fish excluder device (FED) which will be required on each offshore net to be in place by January 1, 1993, which has not yet been developed, but which will be developed and will have to provide for at least a 50 percent bycatch reduction from where they are today. This is going to have a lot of impact on a lot of people and these meetings are being held across the Gulf. The Gulf Council will be in Louisiana on August 30th and then meet on September 17-20 in New Orleans, Louisiana, to follow up on information taken here on different proposals. The department has taken an active role in looking into this situation and will be presenting some alternatives that is felt will reach some of the same end results in a slightly different time frame advised Deputy Secretary McInnis. Two other things that this addresses is that it would require a 2 fish recreational limit on red snapper and it would also limit the directive fishery quota on reef fish to 1 million pounds Gulf wide stated Deputy Secretary McInnis.

Deputy Secretary McInnis advised that one thing that has been done in the last 3 or 4 months in and about the legislative session is to have each of the department's divisions come up with a long range operational plan such as Dr. Clark reported on. The department has gone a step farther to work with the individual employee to make certain that he understands what his job responsibilities are and to bring him into the picture more and how he fits into the big picture of what his division is doing. Next month the department is hoping to begin presenting this information to the Commissioners starting with the Information and Education Section and the Game Section.

Another item of interest that Deputy Secretary McInnis brought up was the Price Lake Project dedication at Rockefeller in October. Further information will be given at the next Commission meeting. This is a Ducks Unlimited cooperative project with the department and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Deputy Secretary McInnis reported that he was pleased to joint Mr. Hugh Bateman in going to the Range Slough project. For someone who has been involved in helping support this with his own time and money Deputy Secretary McInnis commented that to see the good and the progress that has been made with the dollars that Louisiana has contributed is wonderful. This project is a cooperative agreement with the local landowners, the local government, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and Louisiana. Everyone got together and worked together to establish the Range Slough pool as something that will be a water maintained project. This is a very productive marsh and is a project that Louisiana is very proud to participate in stated Deputy Secretary McInnis.

Next, Deputy Secretary presented the recommendations for the Deer Season Advisory Group which the Commissioners had requested from the department as possible participants. Representation will be from the Commission, legislature, landowners, dog hunters and still hunters and each of these categories have several people that the department is suggesting that the Commission consider. It is the Commission's choice pointed out Deputy Secretary McInnis.

Deputy Secretary McInnis brought the Commissioners up-to-date on a few changes in the Enforcement Division. In Region III, Alexandria area, Major Tracy Lucky retired and being replaced by Mr. John Belton.

The dedication of the trail in the Joyce Wildlife Management Area took place and everyone was very pleased with the results of the work that was done over there commented Deputy Secretary McInnis and advised that if anyone has an opportunity to go over there they will enjoy walking through the area.

A new concrete boat ramp has been completed at Pomme-de-Terre Wildlife Management Area and was done with Wallop-Breaux funds and

part of one of the DU MARSH projects and will be available to both hunters, fishermen, canoeing and sightseers.

There has been about 1,500 prints sold this year for the 1990-91 Duck Stamp program. Mr. Elton Louviere is the artist and the print is of green-winged. The publisher is pleased with the sales and being a second year no one anticipated it would maintain the level it has. Representative Martin who attended the meeting yesterday authored the bill that extended the requirement that artists for the duck stamp program competition continue to be from Louisiana only but did modify it to say that if they had been a former resident they would be eligible to participate advised Deputy Secretary McInnis.

The Game Division has initiated plans to enter into the Forest Stewardship program in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the Office of Forestry. There is a new source of money coming in assisting private landowners for developing forest and wildlife services. A perspective list of land acquisition tracts is being developed by the Game Division and hoping that the bond sale scheduled to take place in the 3rd quarter will go through and that the dollars put into the Capital Outlay program will be available for the department at that time.

Completing the Secretary's report Deputy Secretary McInnis gave the legislative recap and pointed out that most of the bills unless they create new law have a very small effect on the change of the existing law.

One bill dealt with the trawl door sizes recommended by the Shrimp Task Force. Because the bill has gone into effect so quickly they have had a difficult time, according to the industry representatives, in acquiring the correct size doors.

Another bill deals with commercial gear license and states that in Louisiana a commercial gear license cannot be sold to an individual who comes from another state who could not buy that same license in his home state. This bill was authored by Representative Randy Roach and goes into effect September of this year but the department's license year goes from January 1 and will only affect those licenses sold towards the end of the year. It will have an impact next year.

Along the same line Representative Sammy Theriot passed a bill to increase an out-of-state commercial fishing license from \$200 to \$400.

At this point Deputy Secretary McInnis recommended that in an effort to be real brief that the Commissioners review these bills on their own and if they have a particular bill they would like to discuss or if there is one that is not on the list that they would

like to know about Deputy Secretary McInnis would be happy to address it with them.

Mr. Jenkins stated on page 9 Senator Chabert's bill at the bottom of the page, Act 621, does this move that line back in to where it was. Deputy Secretary McInnis stated that it puts the line exactly back where it was changed from last year and gives the powerline as the inside, outside line which LPL begged them not to do. On the other end at Barataria it uses the light which was what we had on the west side, the sea buoy all the way down behind the fort virtually and then back out to Ft. Livingston. Mr. Jenkins stated that the old problems have been recreated.

Deputy Secretary McInnis pointed out another bill dealing with the maricultural permit in the Lafourche area has been extended for additional 2 years. This is HB 840 by Representative Glover and has been signed (Act 299).

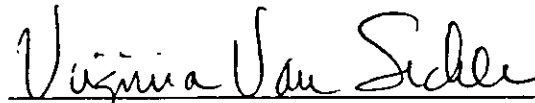
A bill was passed that cleared up the problem in the Breton-Chandeleur Sound area where there has been land erosion and the same type problem with inside, outside waters. The line was clarified and make it simpler to see by using land points and although it did have some effects on the fishery over there, it is something that will be easier understood and easier for the department to enforce.

Representative Roach had several bills to help the department with the trout and red fish situation. Act 742 and Act 743, first of which addresses possession limits and are now a Class 2 violation and Act 743 amends the same section of the law but in a different paragraph providing for size limits and penalties, where before there was no penalty for an undersized trout or red fish you now have a \$25 per fish assessment criminal penalty on the undersized fish as well as the oversized fish.

Chairman Pol at this point in the meeting suggested that all the Commissioners read the legislative recap and if they have any questions contact Deputy Secretary McInnis.

The November Meeting Dates were set at Friday's meeting. The dates for the meeting were set for November 1-2, 1990 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Wildlife and Fisheries headquarters building on Quail Drive.

There being no other business at Friday's meeting Chairman Pol called for a motion for adjournment of the August Commission meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Virginia Van Sickle", written over a horizontal line.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

VVS:sb

RESOLUTION

1990 Oyster Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission
August 10, 1990 - Rockefeller Refuge

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the public oyster seed grounds may be opened from the Wednesday following Labor Day until April 2, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the public oyster seedgrounds and oyster seed reservations have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation have been determined, and

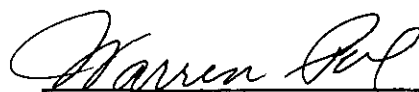
WHEREAS, it has been customary in some cases to rotate the opening of the season on the oyster seed reservation when biologically feasible, and

WHEREAS, since quantities of oysters are limited and increased effort in confined areas can cause higher mortality levels when water temperatures are high, leading to depletion of the resource, and

WHEREAS, recent research indicates an increase in yield may be gained if oysters are planted in high salinity water during periods when the water temperatures have begun to cool, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission does hereby set the season on the public oyster seed grounds in accordance with the Declaration of Emergency which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at this time no managerial action is recommended for the Calcasieu and Sabine Lake tonging areas, and these seasons will be addressed at a subsequent Commission meeting.



Mr. Warren Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Commission



for Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 (B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:433 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, hereby declares:

1. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the public oyster seed grounds and the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will open 1/2 hour before sunrise October 3, 1990.
2. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will close 1/2 hour after sunset October 12, 1990.
3. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring, or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival.
4. The Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will remain closed for the 1990/91 Oyster Season.
5. Oyster bedding will not be allowed in sacks or any other type of container, but will consist of shoveling back on the deck of the vessel.
6. The notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

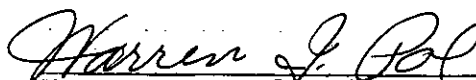
This declaration of emergency is effective October 3, 1990.

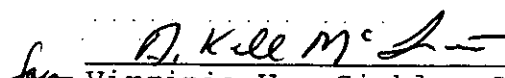
Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

LA'S NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY
RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition, and
- WHEREAS, since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation programs. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the funding of state fish and game departments in all fifty states. They asked that they, themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the money collected be used to support state conservation agencies, in the last fifty years alone, these sportsmen have provided \$2.5 billion for conservation programs, and
- WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulated seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding population. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were fifty years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development, and
- WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans, and
- WHEREAS, through their publications and organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America and many others, hunters and fishermen have led the nation in the battle for a better environment and the wise use of our natural resources.
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission here by proclaiming September 22, 1990, as National Hunting and Fishing Day in Louisiana. The Commission urges all of our citizens to join with the sportsmen-conservationists in a rededication to the wise use of our natural resources and their proper management for the benefit of future generations. Further, the Commission urges all citizens to take part in National Hunting & Fishing Day activities on September 22, 1990, to learn more about conservation and outdoor skills.


Warren I. Pol, Chairman


for Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 9, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO: Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

FROM: Bob Dennie, Information & Education Director

SUBJECT: LA'S National Hunting & Fishing Day - September 22, 1990

FOR COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

Because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition.

Since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation programs. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the funding of state fish and game departments in all 50 states. They ask that they themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the money collected be used to support state conservation agencies. In the last 50 years alone, these sportsmen have provided \$2.5 billion for conservation programs.

Hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulated seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding populations. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were 50 years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development.

Hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans.

MEMORANDUM
Virginia Van Sickle
July 9, 1990

Through their publications and organizations--such as the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America, and many others, hunters and fishermen have led the nation in the battle for a better environment and the wise use of our natural resources.

This year Robert Urich is the National Honorary Chairman and the theme is "We're Aiming to Help"/"One on One". We would like the commission to aid us by proclaiming September 22, 1990 as LA's National Hunting & Fishing Day. This will help insure the rich American tradition of hunting and fishing and to also insure a healthy future for the sport so many of our citizens enjoy.

Therefore, I would like to recommend that the Commission encourage and proclaim September 22, 1990, as LA's National Hunting & Fishing Day in our State.



Bob Dennie
Information & Education Director

BD/jw

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 9, 1990

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting at Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier, LA, August 9, 1990.

WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing migratory waterfowl season framework have been developed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

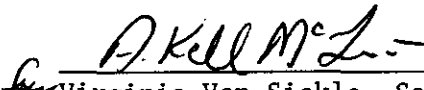
WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for migratory waterfowl species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for migratory waterfowl species within the constraints of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

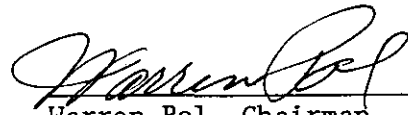
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning November 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 28, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these dates will be forwarded to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulation set for Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.



Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries



Warren Pol, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the Emergency provision of R.S. 49:953 (B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The hunting seasons for ducks, coots, and geese during the 1990-91 hunting season shall be as follows:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Ducks and Coots (Closed Season on Canvasbacks)

West Zone: November 17 - December 5

December 27 - January 6

East Zone: November 17 - November 25

December 17 - January 6

Daily Bag Limit: The daily bag limit on ducks is 3 and may include no more than 2 mallards (no more than 1 of which may be a female), 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 1 pintail and 1 redhead. Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Mergansers: The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit: The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

Geese: Statewide

November 17 - December 8

December 15 - January 31

February 1 - 10

Daily Bag Limit: Daily bag limit is 7 in the aggregate of blue, snow and white-fronted geese of which not more than 2 may be white-fronted (specklebellies) except as noted below. During the last 10 days (February 1-February 10), only blue and snow geese may be taken. During the Experimental Canada Goose Season (January 23-January 31) the daily bag limit for Canada and white-fronted geese is 2, of which not more than 1 can be a Canada goose. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Experimental Canada Goose Season - January 23-31 (NEW)

An experimental Canada goose season will be open in a portion of southwest Louisiana. The area shall be described as follows:

South of Hwy. 12 from the Texas line to Ragley; then south of Hwy. 190 to Opelousas; west of I-49 to Lafayette; west of Hwy. 167 to Abbeville; west and north of Hwy. 82 to the Texas line.

A special permit shall be required to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season. A permit is required of everyone, regardless of age, and a non-refundable \$5.00 administrative fee will be charged. This permit may be obtained from the Lake Charles, Opelousas and Baton Rouge Offices.

Return of harvest information requested on permit is mandatory. Failure to submit this information to the Department by February 15, 1991 will result in the hunter not being allowed to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season the following year.

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service establishes the framework for all migratory waterfowl species. In order to provide hunting opportunity for the 65,000 waterfowl hunters, Louisiana must make its selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours prior to September 1, 1990 and present this information for inclusion in the federal regulations.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will be in

effect by Emergency Rule for 120 days beginning November 1, 1990 and extend through February 28, 1991.

**VARIOUS DUCK SEASON OPTIONS
1990-91**

// WEST ZONE

	<u># Days</u>	<u># Weekends</u>
✓ (Sat.) Nov. 17 - Dec. 5 (Wed.)	19	3
(Thurs.) Dec. 27 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	11	2
(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Nov. 30 (Fri.)	14	2
(Sat.) Dec. 22 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	16	3

// EAST ZONE

✓ (Sat.) Nov. 17 - Nov. 25 (Sun.)	9	2
(Mon.) Dec. 17 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	21	3
(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Nov. 23 (Fri.)	7	1
(Sat.) Dec. 15 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	23	4

GOOSE SEASON

STATEWIDE

	<u># Days</u>	<u>Species Allowed</u>
(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Dec. 8 (Sat.)	22 23	Snow, Blue, White-fronted
(Sat.) Dec. 15 - Jan. 31 (Thurs.)	48 47	Snow, Blue, White-fronted
(Fri.) Feb. 1 - 10 (Sun.)	10	Snow and Blue <u>only</u>
	80 TOTAL	
{ (Wed.) Jan. 23 - 31 (Thurs.)	9	Canada, White-fronted, Snow, Blue

{ Thanksgiving - Thurs. Nov. 22
Christmas - Tues. Dec. 25

Rule

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Title 76

Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 311. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession
Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (Pogonias cromis):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the

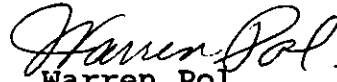
purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (August 1990).


Warren Pol
Chairman

ROLL CALL
August 9-10, 1990

Rockefeller Refuge
Grand Chenier, LA

	Thursday	Friday
Warren Pol (Chairman)	/	/ g
Houston Foret	/	/ g
Don Hines	/	/ g
Jimmy Jenkins	/	/ 2
Bert Jones	/	/ 2
Norman McCall	/	/ g
Peter Vujnovich	/	/ 2

Mr. Chairman:

(Thursday)

There are 1 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

~~Secretary Van Sickle is also present.~~

Deputy Secretary Kell McOrnis

(Friday)

There are _____ Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

~~Secretary Van Sickle is also present.~~

*Ditto Deputy Sec. McOrnis was present
for the Department*

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 9, 1990

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting at Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier, LA, August 9, 1990.

WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing upland migratory season framework have been developed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and


WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for upland migratory species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

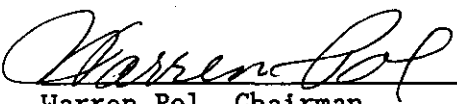
WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for upland migratory species within the constraints of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning September 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 24, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these dates will be forwarded to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulation set for Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.


for Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries


Warren Pol, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the Emergency provision of R.S. 49:953(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The hunting seasons for webless migratory birds during the 1990-91 hunting season shall be as follows:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Dove: Split Season, Statewide
Sept. 1-9
Oct. 13 - Nov. 11
Dec. 8 - Jan. 7

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except on the opening weekend of each split (Sept. 1-2, Oct. 13-14 and Dec. 8-9) when shooting hours will be 12:00 Noon to sunset.

Rail: Nov. 17 - Jan. 20
King and Clapper - daily bag 15 in the aggregate, possession 30. Sora and Virginia - daily bag and possession limit 25 in the aggregate.

Gallinule: Nov. 17 - Jan. 20 - daily bag limit 15, possession 30.

Snipe: Nov. 10 - Feb. 24 - daily bag limit 8, possession 16.

Woodcock: Dec. 1 - Feb. 3 - daily bag limit 5, possession 10.

Shooting hours for rail, gallinule, snipe and woodcock are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service establishes the framework for all migratory species. In order for Louisiana to provide hunting opportunities to the 200,000 sportsmen, selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours must be established and presented to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by August 9, 1990.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will become effective on September 1, 1990 and extend through sunset on February 24, 1991.

Warren Pol
Chairman

1990-1991 PROPOSED FRAMEWORKS

from
The Director

The frameworks prescribe season lengths, bag limits, shooting hours, and outside dates within which States may select seasons for mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves; band-tailed pigeons; rails; moorhens and gallinules; American woodcock; common snipe; experimental September duck seasons in identified States; sea ducks in the Atlantic Flyway; September Canada goose seasons in portions of identified States; sandhill cranes in the Central¹ and Pacific² Flyways; extended falconry seasons; and migratory birds in Alaska, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

***** NOTICE *****

Any State desiring its early hunting seasons to open in September must make its selection no later than August 9, 1990. States desiring these seasons to open after September 30 may make their selections at the time they select regular waterfowl seasons. Atlantic Flyway coastal States desiring their seasons on sea ducks in certain defined areas to open in September must also make their selections no later than August 9, 1990.

All outside dates noted below are inclusive and all shooting hours are between ½ hour before sunrise and sunset daily for all species except as noted below. The hours noted here and elsewhere also apply to hawking (taking by falconry).

MOURNING DOVES

Outside Dates: Between September 1, 1990, and January 15, 1991, except as otherwise provided, States may select hunting seasons and bag limits as follows:

Eastern Management Unit
(All States east of the Mississippi River and Louisiana)

Hunting Seasons, and Daily Bag and Possession Limits

Not more than 70 days with bag and possession limits of 12 and 24, respectively,

or

Not more than 60 days with bag and possession limits of 15 and 30, respectively.
Hunting seasons may be split into not more than 3 periods under either option.

¹ The Central Flyway is defined as follows: Colorado (east of the Continental Divide), Kansas, Montana (east of Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher, and Park Counties), Nebraska, New Mexico (east of the Continental Divide but outside the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation), North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wyoming (east of the Continental Divide).

² The Pacific Flyway is defined as follows: Arizona, California, Colorado (west of the Continental Divide), Idaho, Montana (Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher and Park counties and all counties west thereof), Nevada, New Mexico (west of the Continental Divide plus the entire Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservations), Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming (west of the Continental Divide including the Great Divide Basin).

This Resolution will
~~Approved~~
BE FOR WE BLess MIGRATORY

~~WATER~~ SPECIES. (Dove, SNipe - woodcock
RAIL, GALLINULE) THIS NEEDS TO

BE ADOPTED THURSDAY IN ORDER

TO PUBLISH IN AUGUST REGISTRA. SAME

DATES AS TENTATIVELY ADOPTED

AT JULY MEETING. ORIGINAL RESOLUTION
NEEDS TO BE SIGNED.

- 1) Resolution
- 2) Declaration of Emergency
- 3) Copy of FEDERAL REGS REQUIRING DATES
TO BE SUBMITTED BY AUGUST 9, 1993

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 9, 1990

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting at Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier, LA, August 9, 1990.

WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing upland migratory season framework have been developed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for upland migratory species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for upland migratory species within the constraints of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning September 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 24, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these dates will be forwarded to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulation set for Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries

Warren Pol, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

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King and Clapper - daily bag 15 in the aggregate, possession 30. Sora and Virginia - daily bag and possession limit 25 in the aggregate.

Gallinule: Nov. 17 - Jan. 20 - daily bag limit 15, possession 30.

Snipe: Nov. 10 - Feb. 24 - daily bag limit 8, possession 16.

Woodcock: Dec. 1 - Feb. 3 - daily bag limit 5, possession 10.

Shooting hours for rail, gallinule, snipe and woodcock are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

*BAG limit 12 daily
24 possession*

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service establishes the framework for all migratory species. In order for Louisiana to provide hunting opportunities to the 200,000 sportsmen, selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours must be established and presented to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by August 9, 1990.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will become effective on September 1, 1990 and extend through sunset on February 24, 1991.

Warren Pol
Chairman

1990-1991 PROPOSED FRAMEWORKS

from
The Director

The frameworks prescribe season lengths, bag limits, shooting hours, and outside dates within which States may select seasons for mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves; band-tailed pigeons; rails; moorhens and gallinules; American woodcock; common snipe; experimental September duck seasons in identified States; sea ducks in the Atlantic Flyway; September Canada goose seasons in portions of identified States; sandhill cranes in the Central¹ and Pacific² Flyways; extended falconry seasons; and migratory birds in Alaska, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

*** * * NOTICE * * ***

Any State desiring its early hunting seasons to open in September must make its selection no later than August 9, 1990. States desiring these seasons to open after September 30 may make their selections at the time they select regular waterfowl seasons. Atlantic Flyway coastal States desiring their seasons on sea ducks in certain defined areas to open in September must also make their selections no later than August 9, 1990.

All outside dates noted below are inclusive and all shooting hours are between ½ hour before sunrise and sunset daily for all species except as noted below. The hours noted here and elsewhere also apply to hawking (taking by falconry).

MOURNING DOVES

Outside Dates: Between September 1, 1990, and January 15, 1991, except as otherwise provided, States may select hunting seasons and bag limits as follows:

Eastern Management Unit

(All States east of the Mississippi River and Louisiana)

Hunting Seasons, and Daily Bag and Possession Limits

Not more than 70 days with bag and possession limits of 12 and 24, respectively,

or

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Hunting seasons may be split into not more than 3 periods under either option.

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² The Pacific Flyway is defined as follows: Arizona, California, Colorado (west of the Continental Divide), Idaho, Montana (Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher and Park counties and all counties west thereof), Nevada, New Mexico (west of the Continental Divide plus the entire Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservations), Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming (west of the Continental Divide including the Great Divide Basin).

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
ROCKEFELLER WILDLIFE REFUGE
GRAND CHENIER, LOUISIANA
AUGUST 9-10, 1990

- ✓ 1. Roll Call
- ✓ 2. Approval of Minutes of July 5-6, 1990
- ✓ 3. Status Report on Cooperative Effort with Texas Parks and Wildlife to Reintroduce Attwater Prairie Chickens to Southwest Louisiana - Bob Murphy (TX Parks & Wildlife) and Gary Lester (LA Wildlife & Fisheries)
4. Set Dates for Migratory Seasons Including Waterfowl - Hugh Bateman
5. Discuss Alligator Quotas - James Manning
6. Scenic Rivers System Status Report and Update - Blue Watson
7. Resolution for National Hunting and Fishing Day September 22, 1990 - Bob Dennie
8. Progress Report on Aquatic Education and Results of Free Fishing Day - Bob Dennie
9. 1990-91 Oyster Season - Dr. Jerry Clark
10. Black Drum Rule Ratification - Dr. Jerry Clark
11. Marine Finfish Freeze Report - Dr. Jerry Clark
12. Recap 1989-90 Budget Year and 1990-91 Budget Forecast - Bettsie Baker
13. Monthly Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine
14. Secretary's Report to the Commission - Kell McInnis
15. Legislative Recap - Kell McInnis
16. Set November Meeting Dates

OTHER BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

List for Thursday & Friday, August 9-10
Commission Meeting
Rockefeller Refuge

Warren Pol
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Don Hines
Norman McCall
Peter Vujnovich

Kell McInnis
Jerry Clark
Bettsie Baker

Hugh Bateman
Bennie Fontenot
Johnnie Tarver
Bob Dennie
Winton Vidrine
Karen Foote
Blue Watson
Don Puckett
Mike Landrum
Wynnette Kees
Ron Dugas
John Roussel
Robert Helm
Dave Morrison
Charlie Clark
Carla Faulkner
Gary Lester
Bob Murphy, TX Parks & Wildlife
Larry Ferris

From The Desk of:

Sharyn Bateman

Game Division



BK-

- 1) Contract Review (Aug. meeting)
- 2) Land Acq. Dedication m E Elong Tr. (when Jan?)
- 3) Scenic River Rent (Aug. meeting) ✓
- 4) Stakes - Assessment (Spec. Trans.)

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
ROCKEFELLER WILDLIFE REFUGE
GRAND CHENIER, LOUISIANA
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16. Set November Meeting Dates

OTHER BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 9, 1990

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WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing migratory waterfowl season framework have been developed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for migratory waterfowl species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for migratory waterfowl species within the constraints of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning November 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 28, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these dates will be forwarded to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulation set for Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries

Warren Pol, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the Emergency provision of R.S. 49:953 (B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The hunting seasons for ducks, coots, and geese during the 1990-91 hunting season shall be as follows:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Ducks and Coots (Closed Season on Canvasbacks)

West Zone: November - December

December - January

East Zone: November - November

December - January

Daily Bag Limit: The daily bag limit on ducks is 3 and may include no more than 2 mallards (no more than 1 of which may be a female), 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 1 pintail and 1 redhead. Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Mergansers: The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit: The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

Geese: Statewide

November - December

December - January

February -

Daily Bag Limit: Daily bag limit is 7 in the aggregate of blue, snow and white-fronted geese of which not more than 2 may be white-fronted (specklebellies) except as noted below. During the last 10 days (February - February), only blue and snow geese may be taken. During the Experimental Canada Goose Season (January 23-January 31) the daily bag limit for Canada and white-fronted geese is 2, of which not more than 1 can be a Canada goose. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Experimental Canada Goose Season - January 23-31 (NEW)

An experimental Canada goose season will be open in a portion of southwest Louisiana. The area shall be described as follows:

South of Hwy. 12 from the Texas line to Ragley; then south of Hwy. 190 to Opelousas; west of I-49 to Lafayette; west of Hwy. 167 to Abbeville; west and north of Hwy. 82 to the Texas line.

A special permit shall be required to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season. A permit is required of everyone, regardless of age, and a non-refundable \$5.00 administrative fee will be charged. This permit may be obtained from the Lake Charles, Opelousas and Baton Rouge Offices.

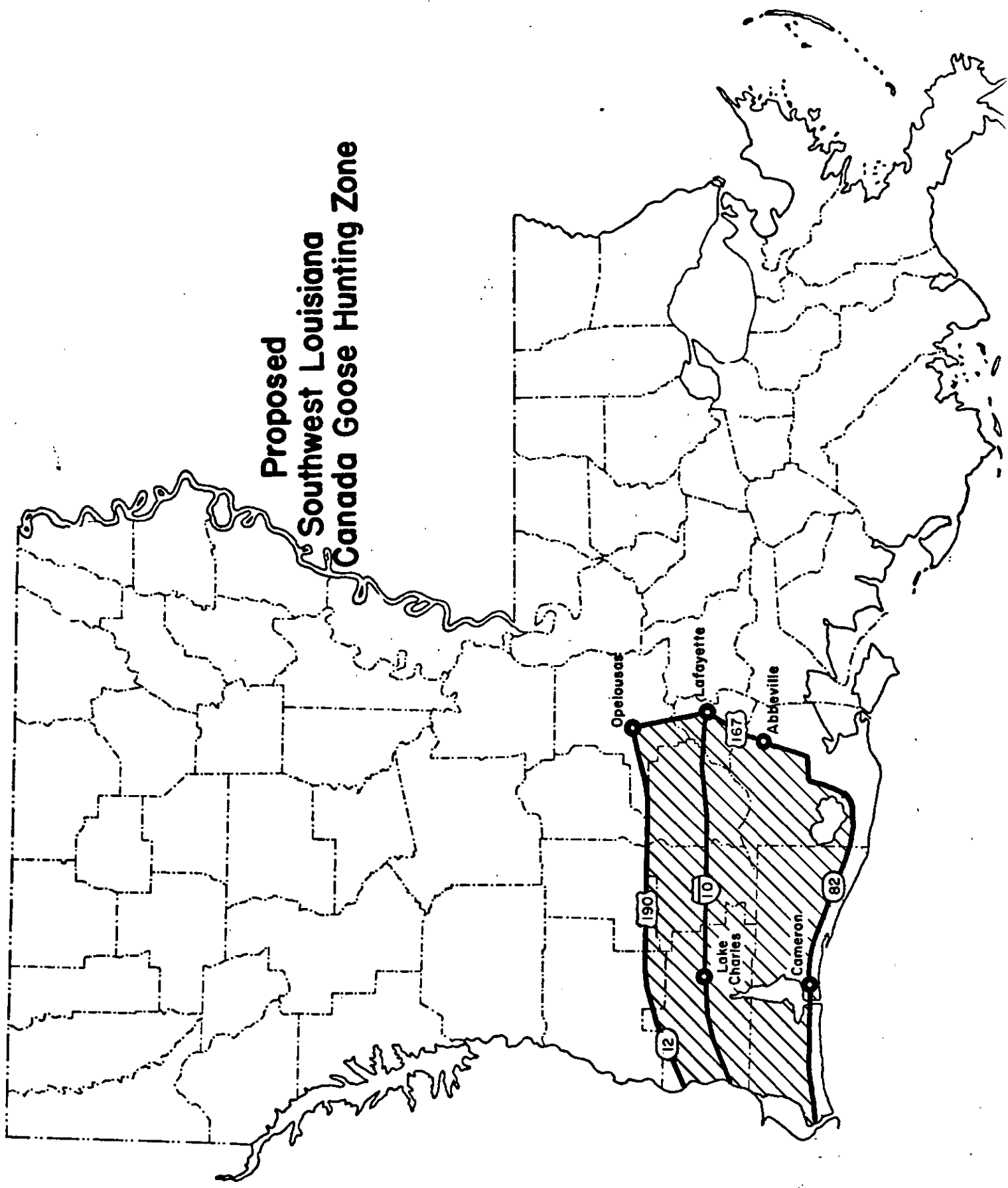
Return of harvest information requested on permit is mandatory. Failure to submit this information to the Department by February 15, 1991 will result in the hunter not being allowed to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season the following year.

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service establishes the framework for all migratory waterfowl species. In order to provide hunting opportunity for the 65,000 waterfowl hunters, Louisiana must make its selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours prior to September 1, 1990 and present this information for inclusion in the federal regulations.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will be in

effect by Emergency Rule for 120 days beginning November 1, 1990 and extend through February 28, 1991.

**Proposed
Southwest Louisiana
Canada Goose Hunting Zone**



#4

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 9, 1990

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Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries

Warren Pol, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

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Warren Pol
Chairman

1990-1991 PROPOSED FRAMEWORKS

from
The Director

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Hunting Seasons, and Daily Bag and Possession Limits

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or

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Hunting seasons may be split into not more than 3 periods under either option.

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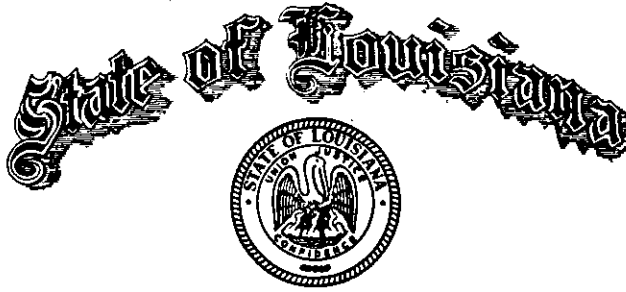
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LA'S NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY
RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS, because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition, and
- WHEREAS, since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation programs. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the funding of state fish and game departments in all fifty states. They asked that they, themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the money collected be used to support state conservation agencies, in the last fifty years alone, these sportsmen have provided \$2.5 billion for conservation programs, and
- WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulated seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding population. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were fifty years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development, and
- WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans, and
- WHEREAS, through their publications and organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America and many others, hunters and fishermen have led the nation in the battle for a better environment and the wise use of our natural resources.
- NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission here by proclaiming September 22, 1990, as National Hunting and Fishing Day in Louisiana. The Commission urges all of our citizens to join with the sportsmen-conservationists in a rededication to the wise use of our natural resources and their proper management for the benefit of future generations. Further, the Commission urges all citizens to take part in National Hunting & Fishing Day activities on September 22, 1990, to learn more about conservation and outdoor skills.

Warren I. Pol, Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 9, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO: Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

FROM: Bob Dennie, Information & Education Director

SUBJECT: LA'S National Hunting & Fishing Day - September 22, 1990

FOR COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

Because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition.

Since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation programs. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the funding of state fish and game departments in all 50 states. They ask that they themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the money collected be used to support state conservation agencies. In the last 50 years alone, these sportsmen have provided \$2.5 billion for conservation programs.

Hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulated seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding populations. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were 50 years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development.

Hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans.

MEMORANDUM

Virginia Van Sickle

July 9, 1990

Through their publications and organizations--such as the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America, and many others, hunters and fishermen have led the nation in the battle for a better environment and the wise use of our natural resources.

This year Robert Urich is the National Honorary Chairman and the theme is "We're Aiming to Help"/"One on One". We would like the commission to aid us by proclaiming September 22, 1990 as LA's National Hunting & Fishing Day. This will help insure the rich American tradition of hunting and fishing and to also insure a healthy future for the sport so many of our citizens enjoy.

Therefore, I would like to recommend that the Commission encourage and proclaim September 22, 1990, as LA's National Hunting & Fishing Day in our State.



Bob Dennie

Information & Education Director

BD/jw

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 (B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:433 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, hereby declares:

1. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the public oyster seed grounds and the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will open 1/2 hour before sunrise October 3, 1990.
2. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will close 1/2 hour after sunset October 12, 1990.
3. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring, or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival.
4. The Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will remain closed for the 1990/91 Oyster Season.
5. Oyster bedding will not be allowed in sacks or any other type of container, but will consist of shoveling back on the deck of the vessel.
6. The notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

This declaration of emergency is effective October 3, 1990.

Warren Pol
Chairman

RESOLUTION

1990 Oyster Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission
August __, 1990 - Rockefeller Refuge

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the public oyster seed grounds may be opened from the Wednesday following Labor Day until April 2, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the public oyster seedgrounds and oyster seed reservations have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation have been determined, and

WHEREAS, it has been customary in some cases to rotate the opening of the season on the oyster seed reservation when biologically feasible, and

WHEREAS, since quantities of oysters are limited and increased effort in confined areas can cause higher mortality levels when water temperatures are high, leading to depletion of the resource, and

WHEREAS, recent research indicates an increase in yield may be gained if oysters are planted in high salinity water during periods when the water temperatures have begun to cool, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission does hereby set the season on the public oyster seed grounds in accordance with the Declaration of Emergency which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at this time no managerial action is recommended for the Calcasieu and Sabine Lake tonging areas, and these seasons will be addressed at a subsequent Commission meeting.

Mr. Warren Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

**VARIOUS DUCK SEASON OPTIONS
1990-91**

WEST ZONE

	<u># Days</u>	<u># Weekends</u>
(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Dec. 5 (Wed.)	19	3
(Thurs.) Dec. 27 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	11	2
(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Nov. 30 (Fri.)	14	2
(Sat.) Dec. 22 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	16	3

EAST ZONE

(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Nov. 25 (Sun.)	9	2
(Mon.) Dec. 17 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	21	3
(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Nov. 23 (Fri.)	7	1
(Sat.) Dec. 15 - Jan. 6 (Sun.)	23	4

GOOSE SEASON

STATEWIDE

	<u># Days</u>	<u>Species Allowed</u>
(Sat.) Nov. 17 - Dec. 8 (Sat.)	22	Snow, Blue, White-fronted
(Sat.) Dec. 15 - Jan. 31 (Thurs.)	48	Snow, Blue, White-fronted
(Fri.) Feb. 1 - 10 (Sun.)	<u>10</u>	Snow and Blue <u>only</u>
	80 TOTAL	
(Wed.) Jan. 23 - 31 (Thurs.)	9	Canada, White-fronted, Snow, Blue

Thanksgiving - Thurs. Nov. 22
Christmas - Tues. Dec. 25

Aquatic Education Achievements

Aquatic Education is a 75% federally funded 25% state funded education program using funds available from the Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid in Sports Fish Restoration Act as expanded by the Wallop-Breaux Amendment. The Wallop-Breaux amendment permits states to use up to 10% of its Wallop-Breaux funds for education. Aquatic Education was developed to increase the sport fishing interest and knowledge of our state fishermen/women. The program includes methods of fishing, environmental and ethical concerns, the biology, conservation and management of our sport fisheries resources. The 25% State match is generated through In-Kind match of volunteer time. Every hour of documented time a volunteer spends on the program is equivalent to eleven dollars of state funds.

Program began November 1988, no one was assigned to the program during first five months. Program coordinator appointed April 1989.

From April till June 1989 time was spent reviewing other states programs, developing a program for use in Louisiana, writing project narrative for federal aid funding and contacting potential volunteers.

July 1989 program began its first year.

During the year from July 1, 1989 till June 30, 1990. The following was accomplished.

- Developed a "How To" guide to aid volunteers in conducting fishing clinics.
- Aided La. Conservationist with development of Fresh and Saltwater sport Fishing posters.
- Obtained 2500 reprints of fish posters for use by volunteers
- Developed and printed information brochure on Aquatic Education Program.
- Developed and printed the Identification Guide to Common Sport Fish of Louisiana.
- Conducted approximately 25 instructor workshops with church groups, youth organizations and sportsman clubs. Over 200 volunteers were trained as clinic instructors.
- Assisted with Project WILD/Aquatic WILD facilitator and teacher workshops.
- Developed Instructor and Student manual, to be used in the public and private schools, to teach Aquatic Education. Manuals will be available before September, 1990.
- Incorporated LSU Sea Grant "Wild Louisiana" Education Programs into Aquatic Education Program. Program centers on our coastal marshes and on Red Fish Management. Video tapes are provided with the program.
- Began development of Education Center in Woodworth.
Obtained 18 acres of land and three building from Office of Forestry through a land swap. Education Center will consist of a big bore rifle range, fishing pond and the buildings will be converted into a facility that will be used to conduct Aquatic and Hunter Education workshops for educators and volunteers. The facilities will also be used to conduct hunter education or aquatic education classes for the public. The main building will contain a meeting room, kitchen, dining area, dormitory and bath facilities. The additional two buildings will be used as a staff dorm. and workshop/storage. Renovation on the facility will begin once Facility Planning approves the architects renovations. The Louisiana National Guard will do the major portion of the range construction and building renovations.

Facility will be funded through a joint Federal Aid project using Hunter Education and Aquatic Education funds. The States matching funds will be In-Kind match using the value of the buildings and the land.

- Sponsored 2 fishing clinics for children in the Adaptive P.E. (handicap) program in Beauregard and Acadia parishes.
- Became involved with ALBC (Association of Louisiana Bass Clubs) Youth Fishing Tournament as a co-sponsor. Nine of these tournaments were conducted state-wide on the Saturday of the two Free Fishing Days. About 1800 youngsters participated.
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 13 fishing clinics during National Fishing Week. Two of which were co-sponsored by the U.S Forest Service.
- Had approximately 1500 individuals attend fishing clinics during Free Fishing Days.

Largest clinic was conducted in Bossier Parish at Cypress/Black Lake Recreation Area. This clinic was co-sponsored with the Bossier City First Baptist Church, Bossier City Recreation Department, and Cypress/Black Lake Recreation Commission. At this clinic we had 450 kids and 200 adults attend with 65 trained adult volunteers conducting or assisting with educational classes.

For the upcoming year we plan on concentrating our efforts on the school program. Once the Instructors and Student manuals are in hand we will begin to schedule workshops for educators and school administrators on the middle school level.

There are several publications and handouts that we hope to develop.

- revised fish I.D. publication (make smaller and incorporate better graphics)
- develop paper ruler with minimum size restrictions for salt and fresh water fish marked. Ruler will have adhesive back and could be placed on boat, tackle box, or Ice chest.
- develop a student activity publication for use by teachers in grades K-5 to stimulate interest in sport fishing.
- reprint several publications currently in library that relate to sport fishing.

Plan to conduct a fishing clinic for youngsters in most of our major metropolitan areas of the state during National Fishing Week of 1991. Success of this will depend on volunteers being available.

Submitted by:

Paul Jackson
Aquatic Education Coordinator
August 8, 1990

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 (B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:433 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, hereby declares:

1. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the public oyster seed grounds and the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will open 1/2 hour before sunrise October 3, 1990.
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6. The notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

This declaration of emergency is effective October 3, 1990.

Warren Pol
Chairman

RESOLUTION

1990 Oyster Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission
August 10, 1990 - Rockefeller Refuge

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the public oyster seed grounds may be opened from the Wednesday following Labor Day until April 2, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the public oyster seedgrounds and oyster seed reservations have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation have been determined, and

WHEREAS, it has been customary in some cases to rotate the opening of the season on the oyster seed reservation when biologically feasible, and

WHEREAS, since quantities of oysters are limited and increased effort in confined areas can cause higher mortality levels when water temperatures are high, leading to depletion of the resource, and

WHEREAS, recent research indicates an increase in yield may be gained if oysters are planted in high salinity water during periods when the water temperatures have begun to cool, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission does hereby set the season on the public oyster seed grounds in accordance with the Declaration of Emergency which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at this time no managerial action is recommended for the Calcasieu and Sabine Lake tonging areas, and these seasons will be addressed at a subsequent Commission meeting.

Mr. Warren Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Commission

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Rule

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries
Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 311. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession
Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (Pogonias cromis):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the

purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (August 1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

NOVEMBER 1990

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OCTOBER 1990 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	DECEMBER 1990 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			All Saints Day. 1	Full moon. 2	3 Deer season opens in areas 2 and 3.
Oyster spawning and red drum spawning ends. 4	Fall waterfowl migration in full swing with mallards and diving ducks arriving. 5	Election Day. 6	7	Bald eagles begin nesting in southern Louisiana. 8	Largemouth bass moving away from bank, biting good. 9	Deer season opens in area 1. 10
11	12	13	Large flounder increasingly available for gigging along the coastal barrier islands. 14	15	16	Sadie Hawkins Day. Deer season opens in areas 4 and 5. 17
Veterans Day. 18	19	20	21	Thanksgiving Day. 22	23	24
First quarter moon. 25	26	27	28	Quail and pheasant season opens. 29	30	First split of deer season closes in areas 2 and 3. 31

August 1, 1990

APPROVED

WVS

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 9th, 1990, at Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, Grand Chenier, Louisiana.

On Friday, August 10th, 1990, the meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 a.m.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of August 9-10, 1990
3. Set Dates for Migratory Seasons Including Waterfowl
4. Discuss Alligator Quotas
5. Scenic Rivers System Status Report and Update
6. Resolution for National Hunting and Fishing Day September 22, 1990
7. Progress Report on Aquatic Education and Results of Free Fishing Day
8. Status Report on Cooperative Effort with Texas Parks and Wildlife to Reintroduce Attwaters Prairie Chickens to Southwest Louisiana
9. 1990-91 Oyster Season
10. Black Drum Rule Ratification
11. Marine Finfish Freeze Report
12. Recap 1989-90 Budget Year and 1990-91 Budget Forecast
13. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
14. Secretary's Report to the Commission
15. Legislative Recap
16. Set November Meeting Dates

OTHER BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 23, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*
RE: August Board Meeting

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 9th, 1990, at Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, Grand Chenier, Louisiana.

On Friday, August 10th, 1990, the meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 a.m.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes of July 5-6, 1990

HUGH BATEMAN

2. Set Dates for Migratory Seasons Including Waterfowl.

JOHNNIE TARVER

3. Discuss Alligator Quotas.

BLUE WATSON

4. Scenic Rivers System Status Report and Update.

BOB DENNIE

5. Resolution for National Hunting and Fishing Day September 22, 1990.
6. Progress Report on Aquatic Education and Results of Free Fishing Day.

Page 2
July 23, 1990

GARY LESTER

7. Status Report on Cooperative Effort with Texas Parks and Wildlife to Reintroduce Attwaters Prairie Chickens to Southwest Louisiana.

JERRY CLARK

8. 1990-91 Oyster Season
9. Black Drum Rule Ratification

BETTSIE BAKER

10. Recap 1989-90 Budget Year and 1990-91 Budget Forecast.

WINTON VIDRINE

11. Monthly Law Enforcement Report

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE

12. Secretary's Report to the Commission

OTHER BUSINESS:

13. Bait Dealer's Permits - Don Puckett
14. Set November Meeting Dates

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
Jerry Clark
Wade Byrd
John Medica
Division Chiefs



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 23, 1990

MEMORANDUM

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July 23, 1990

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
Jerry Clark
Wade Byrd
John Medica
Division Chiefs

Add to Commission Agenda in Cameron

Status report on cooperative effort
with Texas Parks & Wildlife
to reintroduce Attwaters
Prairie Chicken to SW La.

Gary Lester

July 23, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

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July 23, 1990

JERRY CLARK

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VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE

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OTHER BUSINESS:

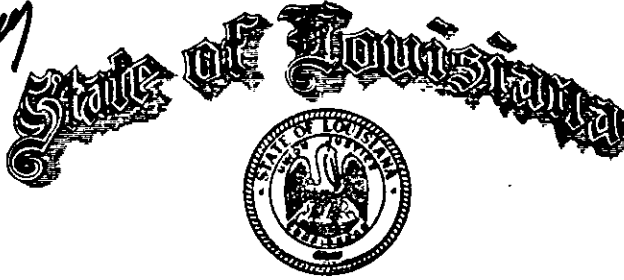
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PUBLIC COMMENT:

C: Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
Jerry Clark
Wade Byrd
John Medica
Division Chiefs

*J.W.
Is this admit
time for NHV 7 day
preparation?
yes.*

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 9, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting Agenda - August 9-10, 1990

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Sharyn Bateman by Monday, July 23rd, any agenda items your Office may have for the August 9-10, 1990, Commission meeting to be held at Rockefeller Refuge. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

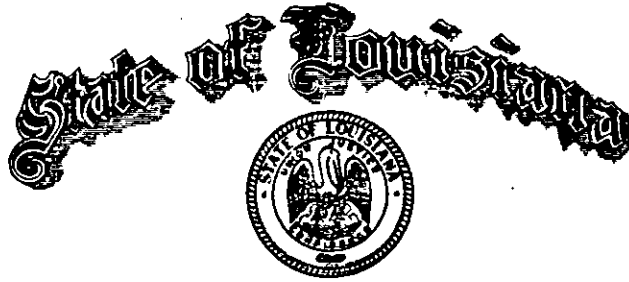
Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

7/9 Resolutions for NHV 7 day - 9/22

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 9, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of
Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting Agenda - August 9-10, 1990

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Sharyn Bateman by Monday, July 23rd, any agenda items your Office may have for the August 9-10, 1990, Commission meeting to be held at Rockefeller Refuge. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Butch



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 9, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting Agenda - August 9-10, 1990

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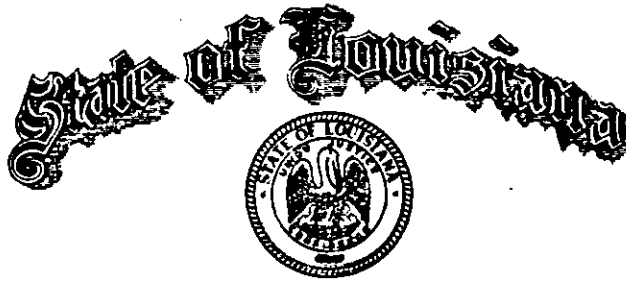
Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

*1) Set ~~waterfowl~~ Hunting Season Dates
migratory seasons including waterfowl*



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

*Scenic River System status
Report and update.*

Blue

Buttani



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Thank you for your cooperation!

Paula

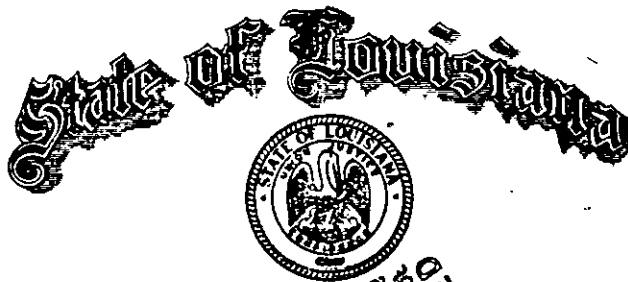
*Recap 1989-90 Budget year
1990-91 Budget year cont.*

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Buttani

Johnnie



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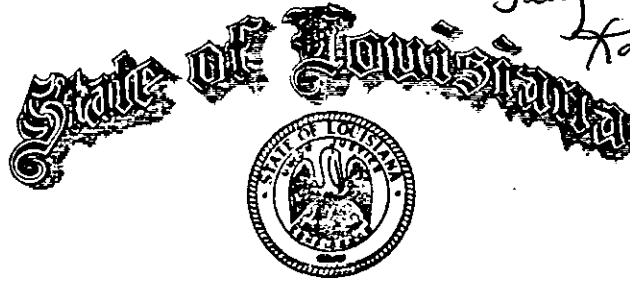
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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

① ...
② ...
③ Discuss Alligator Quotas
- James Manning + ...



Copy to Phil
Ron
John
Please get me
items by July 20.
Kau

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
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Thank you for your cooperation!

- ① 1990-91 oyster season
- ② Black Drum Rule Ratification

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

3

PC/sb 7/20/90



Jessy
Bennie
Karen
Claude
Barney
return by 7/20

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
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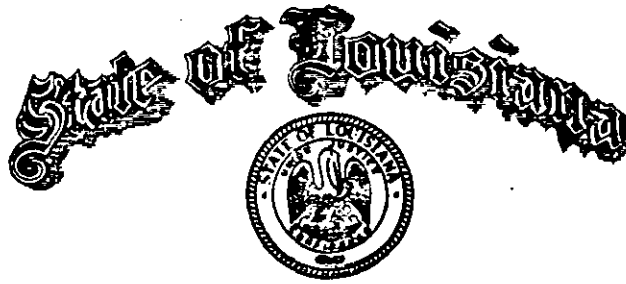
Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

nothing for the agenda
7/9/90 Barry Bennett

Return to Jerry Clark



Jessy
Bernie
Karen
Claude
Barney
return by 7/20

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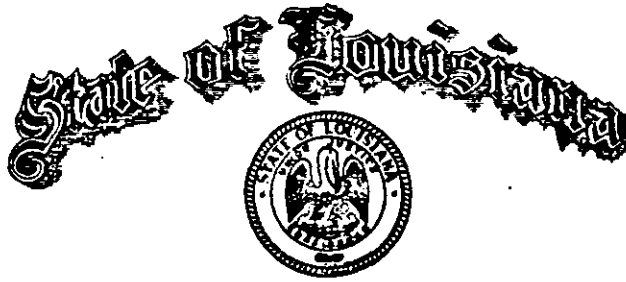
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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

none
yB



Jessy
Bennie
Karen
Claude
Barney
return by 7/20

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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Dear Jerry ..
I have no items
for the July 1990
Meeting
Bennie

Rule
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries
Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 311. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession
Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (Pogonias cromis):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven

(27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (August 1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman



*** ACTIVITY REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO.	0300
CONNECTION TEL	8p318p775 7025
CONNECTION ID	NORMAN MCCALL
START TIME	08/03 08:42
USAGE TIME	01'19
PAGES	2
RESULT	OK

State of Louisiana



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Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
504/765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF FISHERIES
PHONE (504) 765-2801

TELECOMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Norman McCall

DATE: 8-03-90

NUMBER OF PAGES
FOLLOWING:

TIME: 8:45 a.m.

1

FROM: Sharyn Bateman
LDWF

SUBJECT: August Commission Agenda

SHOULD YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL (504) 765-2801

MESSAGES:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

NEWS RELEASE

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
Secretary



CONTACT
(504) 765-2917

90-111 July 30, 1990
AGENDA FOR LDWF'S AUGUST COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting set by the Commission will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 9, at Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, Grand Chenier, La.

The meeting will continue at 9 a.m., Friday, Aug. 10, at the same location.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Roll call.
2. Approval of minutes of July 5-6.
3. Status report on cooperative effort with Texas Parks and Wildlife to reintroduce Attwaters Prairie Chickens to Southwest Louisiana.
4. Set dates for migratory seasons including waterfowl.
5. Discuss alligator quotas.
6. Scenic rivers system status report and update.
7. Resolution, National Hunting and Fishing Day, Sept. 22.
8. Progress report on aquatic education and results of Free Fishing Day.
9. 1990-91 oyster season.
10. Black Drum rule ratification.
11. Marine finfish freeze report.
12. Recap 1989-90 budget year and 1990-91 budget forecast.
13. Monthly law enforcement report.
14. Secretary's report to the Commission.
15. Legislative recap.
16. Set November meeting dates.

OTHER BUSINESS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

*** ACTIVITY REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO. 0301

CONNECTION TEL 8p3612595

CONNECTION ID

START TIME 08/03 09:12

USAGE TIME 00'56

PAGES 2

RESULT OK

State of Louisiana



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504/765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF FISHERIES
PHONE (504) 765-2801

TELECOMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Mae Ann
Rockefeller

DATE: 8-03-90

NUMBER OF PAGES
FOLLOWING:

TIME: 9:10AM

1

FROM: Sharyn Bateman
LDWF - Baton Rouge

SUBJECT: Agenda - Comm. Meeting

SHOULD YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL (504) 765-2801⁶

MESSAGES: Please make copies and post at Rockefeller.

Thanks.

S.B.

ENFORCEMENT

CASE REPORT

JULY, 1990

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT-JULY 1990

REGION 1

TOTAL CASES=180

ENFORCEMENT-180

OTHER - 0

93-Boating

36-Angling W/O A License

37-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Take Game Fish Illegally

1-Fail To Maintain Records

2-Illegal Use Of Monofilament

1-Illegal Possession Of Alligators, Eggs, Or Their Skins

1-Fail To Comply With Alligator Parts Tagging Required

6-Taking Or Possession Of Other Non-Game Birds-No Season

1-Littering

1-Operate ATV Vehicle On Public Road

CONFISCATIONS:

3 red tail hawks-1 mounted and 1 frozen, 1 frozen barred owl, 1 mounted barn owl, 1 mounted horned owl, 1 red shouldered mounted hawk, 1 mounted screech owl, 1 black bass, 1 300x8 deep monofilament net, 5' alligator skin dried, 2 alligator frozen feet.

REGION 2

TOTAL CASES=157

ENFORCEMENT=157

OTHER - 0

64-Boating

27-Angling W/O A License

43-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Resisting Arrest

1-Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana

REGION 2 CONT'D.

1-DWI

7-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

3-Taking Fish Illegally

CONFISCATIONS:

1-1976 Ford Bronco, 1-1988 Duracraft w/Mercury Outboard and contents, 1 Electronic Shocking Device, 25 catfish.

REGION 3

TOTAL CASES-242

ENFORCEMENT-229

OTHER = 13

(94)-Boating

(92)-Angling W/O A License

32-Fish Without Resident Pole License

3-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

1-Take Game Fish Illegally

3-Take Undersize Black Bass

2-Use Illegal Mesh Nets

3-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

2-Buying And/Or Selling Wild Quadrupeds Or Wild Birds (Except Deer)

1-Hunt Or Discharge Firearm From Public Road Or Road Right-Of-Way

1-Buying Or Selling Deer Or Meat

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulation On WMA

1-Resisting Arrest

5-Criminal Trespass

REGION 3 CONT'D.

1-DWI

CONFISCATIONS:

200 feet of 2 inch gill net, 1-14 foot aluminum bateau, 1 9.8 Mercury outboard, 1 9.5 Johnson outboard motor, 7 rabbits, 12 bream, 7 gasper goo.

REGION 4

TOTAL CASES -142

ENFORCEMENT-140

OTHER = 2

(44) Boating

45-Angling W/O A License

40-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

2-Take Game Fish Illegally

1-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Gamefish

3-Not Abiding By Commission Rules And Regulations

1-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

2-Use Lead Nets In Other Than Overflow Regions

1-Blocking Passage Of Fish

1-Not Abiding By Rules and Regulations On WMA

1-Littering

CONFISCATIONS:

4 Paddlefish, 16 strip bass, 28 hoop nets with leads, 80 yards of gill net.

Page (4)

REGION 5

TOTAL CASES=296

ENFORCEMENT-252

OTHER = 44

120-Boating

112-Angling W/O A License

3-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License

3-Take Game Fish Illegally

2-Take Undersize Black Bass

3-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

3-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

1-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

2-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

3-Use Illegal Mesh Nets

3-Possession Of Red Drum And Spotted Sea Trout

1-Leave Nets Unattended

9-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

1-Blocking Passage Of Fish

1-Take/Possess Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License

3-Butterflying In Closed Season

1-Take Alligators W/o License

2-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season

2-Illegal Possession Of Alligators, Eggs, or Their Skins

7-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

1-DWI

8-Littering

REGION 5 CONT'D.

CONFISCATIONS:

1 hoop net, 1 bass, 101 red snapper, 250 lbs. of crabs, 4 gill nets, 9 black drum, 10 red fish.

REGION 6

TOTAL CASES=301

ENFORCEMENT-292

OTHER - 9

164-Boating

1-Allow Another To Use Recreational License

69-Angling W/O A License

24-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

4-Angling W/O Saltwater License

5-Take Game Fish Illegally

1-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Gamefish

1-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum

1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

1-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

1-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

2-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

3-Leave Nets Unattended

4-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

2-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets

2-Trawling In Closed Season (Inside Waters)

2-Trawling Inside Waters W/Oversized Double Rigs (Over 25')

REGION 6 CONT'D.

- 2-Harvest Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
- 1-Poss. Of Live Wild Quadrapeds, Wild Birds W/O Permit
- 2-Possess Firearm While Frogging
- 1-Taking Or Possession Of Other Non-Game Birds-No Season
- 2-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
- 5-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

CONFISCATIONS:

4-30 foot trawls, 1 boat, 30" x 6" hoop net, 34 gill nets, 243 sacks of undersized oysters-released to water, 19 red fish (dead), 9 red fish (released to water), 3 squirrels-released to wild, 5 sac-a-lait (donated to charity), 5 crates crab, 17 largemouth bass (donated to charity), 11 white crappie, 20 red sunfish, 12 blue gill sunfish, and 4 buffalo (donated to charity).

REGION 7

TOTAL CASES=394

ENFORCEMENT=379

OTHER =15

148-Boating

170-Angling W/O A License

46-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

1-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

1-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

3-Resisting Arrest

REGION 7 CONT'D.

4-Aggravated Assault On An Officer

7-DWI

4-Littering

3-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

1-Hunt Or Discharge Firearm From Public Road Or Road Right-Of-Way

1-Possession Of Wild Quadrapeds Or Wild Birds Without Permit

2-Buying Or Selling Deer Or Meat

Confiscations:

1 trawl, 1 Daisy .177 Cal pellet pistol.

REGION 8

TOTAL CASES=400

ENFORCEMENT=314

OTHER = 86

65-Boating

57-Angling W/O A License

2-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

44-Angling W/O Saltwater License

2-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Gamefish

2-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum

6-Take Or Possess Undersized Spotted Sea Trout

1-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum

42-Trawling In Closed Season (Inside Waters)

10-Trawling Inside Waters W/Oversized Double Rigs (Over 25')

3-Use Oversize Trawls

REGION 8 CONT'D.

- 1-Butterflying In Closed Season
- 3-Take Shrimp Illegal Gear
- 1-Rec. Fisherman Using Oversize Trawl
- 4-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
- 14-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species
- 9-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 9-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License
- 1-Fail To Maintain Records
- 2-Leave Nets Unattended
- 2-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish
- 4-Buy Commercial Fish From Un-Lic. Fisherman
- 2-Allow Another To Use Commercial License
- 3-Fail To Comply With Closure Order Spotted Sea Trout
- 4-Permit Unlicensed Person To Operate Commercial Vessel
- 4-Permit Unlicensed Person To Use Commercial Gear
- 10-Take/Possess Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
- 4-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets
- 3-Possess Or Sell Undersized Crabs
- 2-Fail To Comply With Shark Permit And Report Rules
- 1-Commercial Truck Without Display Of Owner Name And Address
- 15-Failure To Have Written Permission
- 3-Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
- 8-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted)
- 6-Unlawfully Take Oysters Off Of A Private Lease
- 5-Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel

REGION 8 CONT'D.

8-Harvest Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License

1-Hunting With Unsigned Duck Stamp

6-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

2-Resisting Arrest

1-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

CONFISCATIONS:

1 boat, 3 basic fishing license, 4 commercial licenses, 5 gill nets, 41 trawls, 2 butterfly nets, 1 oyster dredge, 12 1/2 crates of crabs and 6 hampers (returned to water), 114 sacks of oysters (returned to water), 28 bull frogs (returned to water), 8,661 lbs. of shrimp, 36 sacks of oysters, 126 whole speckled trout, 4 whole spanish mackerel, 2 whole black drum, 1 flounder, 3 red fish, 3 shark.

REGION 9

TOTAL CASES=329

ENFORCEMENT=318

OTHER = 11

79-Boating

46-Angling W/O A License

8-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

23-Angling W/O Saltwater License

2-Take Game Fish Illegally

4-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Gamefish

1-Poss. O/L Of Red Drum

37-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum

3-Take Or Possess Undersized Spotted Sea Trout

REGION 9 CONT'D.

2-Not Abiding By Commission Rules And Regulations

1-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

5-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial
License

3-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

5-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

1-Illegal Use Of Monofilament

1-Possess O/L Of Red Drum Over 27"

7-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

2-Trawling In Closed Season

3-Failure To Have Written Permission

1-Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms

19-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted)

1-Unlawfully Take Oysters Off A Private Lease

1-Use Undersized Dredge Without Permit

1-Take Oysters Illegal Hours

1-Trawling Or Seining On Oyster Lease

1-Failure To Tag Sacked Or Containerized Oysters

2-Harvest Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License

2-Buying And/Or Selling Wild Quadrapeds Or Wild Birds

3-Possess Firearm While Frogging

3-Take Alligators W/O License

3-Hunt Alligators At Night With Firearm

3-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season

2-Trap Or Sell F.B.A. Or Parts W/O Res. Or Non-Resident License

REGION 9 CONT'D.

2-Aggravated Assault On An Officer

2-Criminal Trespass

2-DWI

2-Littering

11-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

18-Possess/Take Undersize Federal Controlled Fish

7-Possess/Take Over Limit Federal Controlled Fish

8-Take Federally Controlled Fish In Closed Season

CONFISCATIONS:

2 lobster tails, 11 groupers, 385 lbs. of shrimp, 102 speckled trout, 47 sacks of oysters, 1 oyster skiff, 28 crates of crabs, 5 perch, 78 bass, 3 mullets, 1 cast net, 299 catfish, 48 amberjack, 35 red drum, 1 gill net, 1 dredge, 1 champagne basket, 2 pawn tickets, 4 coon, 18 rabbits, 1 cobia, 2 trawls, 3 boats, 3 red snapper, 2 motors, 1 22 cal. Marlin.

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

TOTAL CASES=54

- 8-Boating
- 3-Angling W/O A License
- 3-Angling W/O A Saltwater License
- 3-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
- 4-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License
- 4-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License
- 2-Take/Possess Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
- 1-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets
- 5-Trawling In Closed Season (Inside Waters)
- 2-Use Oversize Trawls
- 1-Butterflying In Closed Season
- 3-Failure To Have Written Permission
- 5-Take Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted)
- 2-Take Oysters Off Of Private Lease
- 2-Fail To Display Number On Vessel
- 6-Harvest Oysters W/o Oyster Harvester License

CONFISCATIONS:

62 sacks of oysters, 1 lugger, 2 flatboats, 2 outboard motors, 2 oyster dredges, 2 skiffs, 1 trawl, 2 butterfly nets, 757 lbs. of shrimp, 1 alligator.

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AIRCRAFT PILOT

TOTAL CASES=8

2-Illegal Game Fish Caught With Hoop Net

2-Illegal Gill Netting

1-Poss. Undersize Speckled Trout

1-Poss. Undersize Red Fish

2-Shrimping In Inside Waters In Closed Season

Page (14)

S.W.E.P.

137 ENGINE HOURS

42 BOATS CHECKED

TOTAL CASES=51 CITATIONS

31-Trawling Closed Season

10-Using O/S Trawls Inside Waters

2-Allow Another Fisherman To Use Commercial License

2-Allow Another Fisherman To Use Commercial Gear License

1-Allow Another Fisherman To Use Vessel License

2-Fail To Have Commercial Fisherman License

2-Resisting Arrest

1-Reckless Operation Of Motor Vessel

CONFISCATIONS:

32 trawls, 5,815 lbs. of shrimp which sold for 9,347.33.

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TOTAL CASES S.W.E.P. = 51

TOTAL CASES O.S.F. = 54

TOTAL CASES ENFORCEMENT -2261

TOTAL CASES OTHER DIVISIONS= 180

GRAND TOTAL =2546

	1984-1985	1985-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-90 as of 07-90
RS/MI CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT						
Other Income on Land				211,546.00	265,458.00	100,137.00
TOTAL				211,546.00	265,458.00	100,137.00
LA CONSERVATIONIST FUND						
Receipts					594,261.00	225,633.00
Miscellaneous Income					702.00	(59.00)
TOTAL					594,963.00	225,574.00
SEAFOOD PROMOTION MARKET						
Interest Income	15,607.00	13,282.00	14,203.00	37,215.00	42,627.00	
Licenses	331,360.00	524,678.00	472,386.00	447,588.00	415,860.00	
Miscellaneous Income	8.00			52,116.00	3,946.00	
TOTAL	346,975.00	537,960.00	486,589.00	536,919.00	462,433.00	
WLF FUR & ALLIGATOR FUND						
Licenses				122,800.00	84,240.00	105,997.00
Miscellaneous					0.00	160.00
TOTAL				122,800.00	84,240.00	106,157.00
LA. DUCK STAMP FUND						
Interest Income					94.00	48,148.00
Licenses						0.00
Other Licenses, Permits					4,682.00	348,294.00
Other Receipts					159,359.00	730,876.00
TOTAL					164,135.00	1,127,318.00
WILDLIFE & NATURAL HERIT.						
Other Licenses, Permits						570,580.00
Other Receipts						5.00
TOTAL						570,585.00
GENERAL FUND						
State Funds						363,871.00
TOTAL						363,871.00
FEDERAL	4,599,893.00	4,836,106.00	6,155,279.00	5,125,059.00	5,545,127.00	5,072,591.00
OTHER	337,861.00	914,872.00	657,231.00	344,851.00	720,592.00	325,851.00
TOTAL	40,956,942.00	35,315,531.00	32,451,379.00	33,600,471.00	39,015,048.00	33,800,526.00

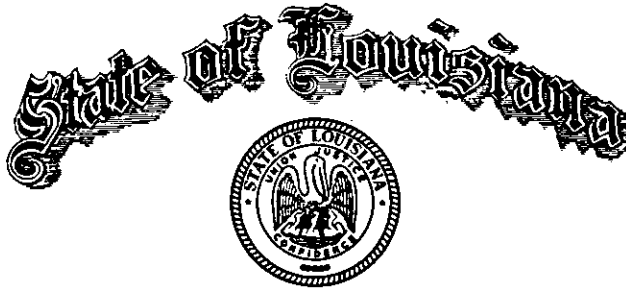
300,000
200,000

REVENUE COMPARISONS

	1984-1985	1985-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-90 as of 07-90
CONSERVATION FUND						
Royalties/Oil & Gas	8,590,418.00	6,366,422.00	4,807,971.00	4,740,349.00	4,103,041.00	2,830,351.00
Royalties/Other			2,232,069.00	2,184,998.00	4,695,232.00	3,329,717.00
Rentals on Land	539,480.00	614,348.00	654,171.00	649,825.00	707,821.00	716,029.00
Other Income on Land	147,086.00	113,671.00	107,307.00	103,581.00	143,146.00	148,819.00
Interest Income		77,705.00	33,914.00	51,488.00	84,793.00	197,517.00
Federal					2,766.00	0.00
Severance Taxes	3,343,213.00	2,309,599.00	161,983.00	145,155.00	128,411.00	136,571.00
License Sales	9,652,846.00	8,677,326.00	11,359,798.00	14,881,767.00	13,145,608.00	14,210,572.00
Miscellaneous Income	449,004.00	514,873.00	1,051,999.00	591,124.00	1,572,789.00	443,050.00
Adjustment to Revenue			640,260.00	129,670.00	617,923.00	
TOTAL	22,722,047.00	18,673,944.00	21,049,472.00	23,477,957.00	25,201,530.00	22,012,626.00
ROCKEFELLER REFUGE FUND						
Royalties	9,568,368.00	7,177,992.00	3,418,144.00	3,275,154.00	2,754,587.00	948,990.00
Rentals on Land	340,294.00	94,578.00	56,211.00	745.00	84,160.00	330.00
Other Income on Land	1,654,234.00	574,040.00	23,122.00	1,112,865.00	286,194.00	37,593.00
Interest Income	539,171.00	379,163.00	126,284.00	18,286.00	19,501.00	31,088.00
Miscellaneous Income	51,468.00	35,787.00	22,451.00	95,169.00	40,200.00	65,375.00
Adjustment to Revenue			(1,741,563.00)	(2,525,491.00)	400,634.00	0.00
TOTAL	12,153,535.00	8,261,560.00	1,904,649.00	1,976,728.00	3,585,276.00	1,083,376.00
ROCKEFELLER TRUST FUND						
Interest Income		1,557,506.00	1,253,036.00	1,222,614.00	1,595,472.00	1,572,516.00
TOTAL		1,557,506.00	1,253,036.00	1,222,614.00	1,595,472.00	1,572,516.00
MARSH ISLAND REFUGE FUND						
Royalties	262,057.00	161,758.00	313,032.00	154,872.00	125,194.00	212,034.00
Rentals on Land	167,015.00	53,419.00	12,048.00		6,826.00	14,773.00
Other Income on Land	8,232.00	126,977.00	70,617.00	25,690.00	29,446.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	144,627.00	35,110.00	197,659.00	107,449.00	101,484.00	54,434.00
TOTAL	581,931.00	377,264.00	593,356.00	288,011.00	262,950.00	281,241.00
MARSH ISLAND TRUST FUND						
Interest Income	561,675.00	342,092.00	297,653.00	316,342.00	419,533.00	448,999.00
TOTAL	561,675.00	342,092.00	297,653.00	316,342.00	419,533.00	448,999.00
MARSH ISLAND FUND #2						
Interest Income		5,212.00	2,743.00	27,974.00	38,853.00	47,251.00
TOTAL		5,212.00	2,743.00	27,974.00	38,853.00	47,251.00

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 RECAP BUDGET/ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
 1988-89 ACTUAL, 1989-90 BUDGET VS. ACTUAL, 1991 BUDGET

	ACTUAL 1988-89	BUDGET 1989-90	ACTUAL 1989-90	BUDGET 1990-91
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY				
Administrative	5,361,984	6,157,531	5,564,026	5,414,082
Enforcement	8,495,796	9,069,179	9,007,715	10,025,899
I & E	1,318,125	1,781,217	1,608,950	1,503,686
Seafood Promotion	457,137	607,785	483,219	707,778
Fur & Alligator Council	158,344	300,000	175,498	300,000
TOTAL OFFICE OF SECRETARY	15,791,386	17,915,720	16,839,408	17,951,445
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE				
Administrative	128,985	235,973	232,888	216,610
Fur & Refuge	3,552,023	4,780,627	4,258,408	4,844,581
Habitat Conservation	324,507	595,041	378,124	612,496
Game	4,385,812	4,624,248	4,452,716	4,691,668
TOTAL OFFICE OF WILDLIFE	8,391,327	10,235,889	9,322,136	10,365,355
OFFICE OF FISHERIES				
Administrative	78,809	170,529	182,044	151,548
Saltwater	5,160,231	5,797,203	4,640,473	5,116,344
Freshwater	3,550,228	4,614,904	3,820,166	4,851,201
TOTAL OFFICE OF FISHERIES	8,789,268	10,582,636	8,642,683	10,119,093
TOTAL WILDLIFE & FISHERIES	<u>32,971,981</u>	<u>38,734,245</u>	<u>34,804,227</u>	<u>38,435,893</u>



*file
1990-91
Black Binder*

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 30, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

To: *Bittner*

From: Wynnette B. Kees
Fiscal Officer

Re: Approved Capital Outlay Bill

Enclosed is a list of our projects as they appeared in HB 707. Facility Planning will be sending me a letter listing the projects and their numbers with instructions for proceeding.

This is the first time we've had projects funded from general obligation bonds, and they are handled differently from our usual projects. We may not begin work on these projects until authorized by the Bond Commission.

WBK/mag

HB 707 - CAPITAL OUTLAY (ENROLLED)

I. From monies in state treasury

16/513	Land Acquisitions:	
	Duck Stamp Fund	400,000
	F & W Foundation	100,000
	WNNH Trust	<u>1,600,000</u>
		2,100,000
	Wetlands Restoration and	
	Improvements on Dept. Property:	
	Duck Stamp Fund	100,000
	F & W Foundation	<u>100,000</u>
		200,000
	From Rockefeller Refuge Fund	
	Nature Center and Trails	90,000
	Erosion Control	280,000
	Water Mgmt. Structure	270,000
16/514	Statewide Boating & Fishing	
	Federal	500,000

II. From general obligation bonds

Priority 1

None

Priority 2

None

Priority 3

16/513	Land Acquisition (Avoyelles, Beauregard, Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Concordia, Franklin, Ouachita, St. Charles, St. Tammany, Tangipohoa, Tensas, Vermilion, W. Feliciana, E. Carroll, W. Carroll, Caddo, Bossier)	5,000,000
16/514	Planning and land acquisition and construction of new fish hatchery (Rapides, Grant, Evangeline, Natchitoches, Winn, Caddo, Sabine, Claiborne, Red River, DeSoto, Iberville, W. Baton Rouge, Pointe Coupee, E. Feliciana, W. Feliciana, and any other parish not specifically enumerated herein)	1,000,000

Priority 4

16/513 Land Acquisition (Avoyelles, Beauregard,
Caldwell, Cameron, Catahoula, Concordia,
Franklin, Ouachita, St. Charles, St.
Tammany, Tangipohoa, Tensas, Vermilion, W.
Feliciana, E. Carroll, W. Carroll, Caddo,
Bossier)
13,000,000

16/514 Construction of new fish hatchery
(Rapides, Grant, Evangeline, Natchitoches,
Winn, Caddo, Sabine, Claiborne, Red River,
DeSoto, Iberville, W. Baton Rouge, Pointe
Coupee, E. Feliciana, W. Feliciana, and any
other parish not specifically enumerated
herein)
1,000,000

Priority 5

16/514 Construction of fish hatchery (Rapides,
Grant, Evangeline, Natchitoches, Winn,
Sabine, Claiborne, Red River, Desoto,
Caddo)
4,000,000

DEPART OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES CONSERVATION FUND COLLECTIONS 88-91

1,477,414
84-85

89-90

REVENUE CODE	CONSERVATION FUND	Actual 1987-88	Actual 1988-89	Current 1989 thru Anticipated	Year 1990 Estimated	Requested Yr 1990-91
	Severance Tax:					
122203	Oyster Severance Tax (56:446)	27,167	27,519	20,000	25,000	25,000
122204	Shrimp Severance Tax (56:505)	98,807	85,644	95,000	90,000	90,000
122205	Fur Severance Tax (56:257)	19,181	15,247	25,000	15,000	15,000
22211	Alligator Severance Tax (56:257)	0	0	0	0	0
	Income-Royalties on Land					
131200	Oil and Gas Royalty	4,740,348	4,103,041	4,500,000	4,660,000	4,600,000
131203	Material Royalty (56:2011)	644,525	294,384	400,000	400,000	400,000
131204	Clam Shell Royalty (56:472)	679,967	1,855,449	1,200,000	1,200,000	600,000
131205	Oyster Shell Royalty (56:441)	860,507	2,545,399	1,500,000	1,500,000	600,000
	Income-Rentals on Land					
131400	Right-of-Way		0	0	0	0
131401	Land Rental	9,827	25,050	50,000	25,000	25,000
131402	Oyster Bedding Leases (56:428(C))	639,999	682,771	975,000	640,000	640,000
131403	Artificial Reef Development		0	0	0	0
131600	Bonuses	50,100	73,679	25,000	40,000	40,000
	(Income-Other Receipts Land)					
131800	Fur	1,854	516	1,000	1,000	1,000
131802	Oyster Transfer of Lease	3,500	4,265	4,000	4,000	4,000
131804	Sale of Timber (56:800)	37,795	29,979	50,000	50,000	50,000
131807	Alligator Hides (Commission Ruling)	7,397	30,153	20,000	30,000	40,000
131811	Sale of Land	0	1,279	0	0	0
1320	Income from Bldg & Equip.	2,935	0	0	0	0
1332	Interest	51,488	84,793	55,000	70,000	70,000
	(Commercial Licenses)					
1440	Prior Year Licenses & NSF's (Adm Dec)	841	84	7,000	1,000	1,000
144001	Hunting Preserve License (56:653)	3,600	4,800	3,600	4,000	4,000
144002	Game Breeders (56:171)	10,150	9,705	12,000	12,000	12,000
144003	Resident Oyster Tongs (56:305(B)(8))	18,215	13,995	20,000	15,000	15,000
144004	Resident Oyster Dredge (56:305(B)(3))	36,925	38,780	40,000	40,000	40,000
144005	Non-resident Oyster Dredge (56:305(C))	19,030	28,400	20,000	25,000	25,000
144006	Comm or Rec Duplicate License (See 167013)(Adm Dec)		170	0	0	0
144007	Resident Fur Buyer (56:252(A)(3))	3,550	3,295	4,250	3,500	3,500
144008	Resident Fur Dealer (56:252(A)(5))	4,500	3,000	4,500	3,000	3,000
144009	Non-resident Fur Buyer (56:252(A)(4))	300	100	300	300	300
144010	Non-resident Fur Dealer (56:252(A)(6))	3,000	1,800	3,000	2,000	2,000
144011	Resident Comm Fisherman (56:303(B))	1,336,061	1,166,883	1,500,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
144012	Resident Hoop Net (56:305(B)(5))	31,565	33,255	35,000	35,000	35,000
144013	Resident Fish Seine (56:305(B)(7))	4,805	5,460	5,000	5,000	5,000
144014	Resident Trammel Net (56:305(B)(10))	12,845	12,515	15,000	13,000	13,000
144015	Resident Gill Net (56:305(B)(4))	55,660	54,051	57,000	57,000	57,000
144016	Non-resident Hoop Net (56:305(C))	3,425	3,515	3,500	3,500	3,500
144017	Non-resident Trammel Net (56:305(C))	1,045	1,045	2,000	1,045	1,045
144018	Resident Vessel License (56:304(B))	246,215	224,590	248,000	225,000	225,000
144019	Non-resident Vessel License (56:304(B))	146,390	126,665	150,000	150,000	150,000
144020	Resident Purse/Menhaden (56:305(B)(6))	34,000	36,500	34,000	34,000	34,000
144021	Resident wholesale/Retail Lic. (56:306.1)	155,610	21,830	0	0	0
144022	Non-res Whole/Ret Lic (56:306.1)	70,200	8,400	0	0	0
144023	Res Whol/Ret Dealer's Lic/Rest (56:306.1)	31,785	36,550	33,000	35,000	35,000
144024	Transport License (56:307.1)	20,465	25,905	22,000	22,000	22,000
144025	Resident Shrimp Trawl (56:305(B)(11))	448,041	401,510	460,000	450,000	450,000
144026	Non-resident Shrimp Trawl (56:305(C))	388,250	389,955	400,000	400,000	400,000
144027	Non-resident Minnow Dealer (56:634)	410	615	500	500	500
144028	Resident Fish Farmer (56:412)	360	360	1,000	360	360
144031	Non-res Comm. Fisherman (56:303(B))	280,145	245,700	300,000	275,000	275,000
144032	Non-game Quadruped Exhibitors (56:262.1)	350	315	350	350	350
144033	Non-game Quadruped Breeders (56:262.1)	1,800	2,360	1,800	2,000	2,000
144034	Non-res. Fish Seine (56:305(C))	760	615	1,000	1,000	1,000
144035	Resident Butterfly (56:305(B)(1))	237,455	191,920	240,000	225,000	225,000
144036	Non-resident Butterfly (56:305(C))	1,810	2,930	2,000	3,000	3,000
144037	Resident Slat Trap (56:305(B)(9))	7,135	6,440	10,000	7,500	7,500
144038	Non-resident Slat Trap (56:305(C))	285	285	500	500	500
144039	Non-resident Purse/Menhaden (56:305(C))	14,105	16,120	16,000	16,000	16,000
144040	Resident Frog Gig Lic. (56:305(B)(12))	0	0	0	0	0
144041	Non-resident Frog Gig. Lic. (56:305(B)(12)(C))	0	0	0	0	0

DEPART OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES CONSERVATION FUND COLLECTIONS 88-91

144042	Non-resident Oyster Tongs (56:305(C))	19,085	14,775	20,000	20,000	20,000
144044	Retail Alligator Meat (56:262.2)	1,016	735	1,200	1,200	1,200
144045	Non-resident Gill Net (56:305(C))	17,995	14,535	20,000	15,000	15,000
144046	Resident Crab Trap (56:305(B)(2))	56,565	60,700	60,000	60,000	60,000
144047	Non-res Crab Trap (56:305(C))	6,100	5,130	6,500	6,500	6,500
144048	Alligator Parts Dealer(56:262.2(A))	3,850	4,650	4,000	5,000	5,000
144049	Res Crab Trap Att to Trotline (56:305(B)(2))	146	214	150	200	200
144050	Non-resident Crab Trap Trotline (56:305(C))	0	0	0	0	0
144051	Resident Miscellaneous Gear (56:305(B)(12))	0	10,055	0	0	0
144052	Non-res Misc Gear (56:305(C))	0	9,080	0	0	0
144053	Resident Whol/Ret Dir-Bus (56:306.1)	0	118,800	157,000	195,000	195,000
144054	Resident Whol/Ret Dir-Vehicle (56:306.1)	0	37,200	0	0	0
144055	Non-res Whol/Ret Dir-Bus (56:306.1)	0	5,600	72,000	80,000	80,000
144056	Non-res Whol/Ret Dir-Vehicle (56:306.1)	0	44,800	0	0	0
144057	Resident Eel Pot Lic (56:332.1)	0	0	0	0	0
144058	Non-res Eel Pot Lic (56:332.1)	0	0	0	0	0
144059	Resident Minnow Trap License (56:305(B)(12))	0	120	0	0	0
144090	Non-res Minnow Trap License (56:305(B)(12))	0	90	0	0	0
144091	Resident Set Line License (56:305(B)(12))	0	820	0	0	0
144092	Non-res Set Line License (56:305(B)(12))	0	855	0	0	0
144093	Resident Dip/Cast Net License (56:305(B)(12))	0	120	0	0	0
144097	Resident Can License (56:305(B)(12))	0	100	0	0	0
(Recreational Licenses)						
144060	Resident Hoop Net (56:302.3(B)(2))	16,900	40,424	17,500	40,000	40,000
144061	Non-resident Hoop Net (56:302.3(C))	1,040	2,200	2,000	2,200	2,200
144062	Recreational Gill Net (56:302.3(D))	8,000	-2,887	0	0	0
144063	Non res Rec Gill Net (56:302.3(D))	300	-250	0	0	0
144064	Recreational Trammel Net (56:302.3(D))	2,325	-650	0	0	0
144066	Resident Rec Fish Seine (56:302.3(D))	1,500	-525	0	0	0
144067	Non-res Rec Fish Seine (56:302.3(D))	300	-50	0	0	0
144068	Resident Slat Trap (56:302(B)(4))	7,620	13,520	7,750	12,000	12,000
144069	Non-res Slat Trap (56:302.3(C))	640	1,400	1,000	1,400	1,400
144070	Resident Crab Trap (56:302.3(B)(1))	8,023	19,195	9,500	15,000	15,000
144071	Non-res Crab Trap (56:302.3(C))	120	160	500	500	500
144072	Resident Shrimp Trawl (56:302.3(B)(5))	80,504	122,100	82,500	100,000	100,000
144073	Non-res Shrimp Trawl (56:302.3(C))	2,500	3,300	2,500	3,000	3,000
144074	Resident Oyster Tongs (56:302.3(B)(3))	600	740	800	800	800
144075	Non-res Oyster Tongs (56:302.3(C))	20	20	0	0	0
144076	Resident Trawl (20'less) (56:302.3(B)(5))	11,440	40	0	0	0
144077	Non Res Travel (20'less)(56:302.3(C))	720	0	0	0	0
144078	Resident Crab Trap Trotline (56:302.3(1))	5	10	10	10	10
144079	Non- Res Crab Trap Trotline (56:302.3(1)(C))	0	0	0	0	0
144080	Mussel Shell License (56:450(C))	0	60	100	100	100
1440	Oyster Harvester License (56:303.6)	0	0	0	250,000	250,000
(Other Licenses, Permits, Fees)						
145000	Motorboat General (34:851.20(A)(1))	425,358	249,629	450,000	400,000	400,000
145001	Motorboat Dealers (34:851.23(B)(1))	650	2,105	750	2,000	2,000
145002	Motorboat Duplicate Decals (34:851.20(I))	650	11,462	1,500	5,000	5,000
145003	Motorboat Transfers (34:851.20(C))	86,241	110,379	80,000	90,000	90,000
145004	Motorboat Duplicate Certificates (34:851.20(I))	7,975	7,460	9,000	8,000	8,000
145005	Motorboat Change of Address (34:851.20(H))	2,045	10,770	2,500	2,500	2,500
145006	Motorboat Renewals (34:851.20(F))	659,193	673,549	700,000	700,000	700,000
145007	Motorboat Reinstates (34:851.20(A)(1))	125,919	197,935	75,000	125,000	125,000
145008	Motorboat Reinstates (34:851.20(A)(1))	1,650	0	2,000	0	0
145013	Alligator Tag Fees (56:262.2(C))	5,245	85,778	50,000	275,000	275,000
145014	Oyster Tag Fees (56:449(B))	134,458	123,839	135,000	130,000	130,000
145015	Mariculture Permits (56:579.1 (C)(5))	0	4,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
145016	Survey Fees	233,363	127,279	200,000	180,000	180,000
145017	Seismic Fees	793,443	608,557	600,000	600,000	600,000
145018	Experimental Fish Permits (56:571(C))	1,064	1,381	1,200	1,200	1,200
145019	Res Alligator Hunter License (56:252(A)(2))	7,105	9,537	42,000	10,000	10,000
145020	Non res Allig Hunter Lic (56:252(A)(2))	7,800	2,100	5,000	5,000	5,000
145023	Seismic Fees-Red Lined Oyster Area	293,853	50,800	250,000	65,000	65,000
(Sport Licenses)						
145024	Resident Basic Fishing License (56:302.1(A))	1,659,381	1,489,014	1,750,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
145025	Non-res Basic Fish Lic-Season (56:302.1(A))	333,468	248,623	350,000	350,000	350,000
145026	Non-res Basic Fish Lic-Trip (56:302.1(B))	193,587	203,249	200,000	200,000	200,000

DEPART OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES CONSERVATION FUND COLLECTIONS 88-91

145027	Resident Saltwater License (56:302.1(C)(2))	502,820	350,493	500,000	500,000	500,000
145028	Resident Basic Hunting License (56:104(A)(1))	1,890,845	1,667,406	1,750,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
145029	Non-res Basic Hunt Lic-Season (56:104(A)(2))	140,414	109,611	140,000	140,000	140,000
145030	Non-res Basic Hunt Lic-Trip (56:104(A)(2))	83,957	74,523	85,000	80,000	80,000
145031	Resident Big Game (56:104(A)(3))	995,071	875,726	900,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
145032	Non-res Big Game (56:104(A)(4))	58,748	69,031	60,000	70,000	70,000
145033	Resident Bow License (56:105(B))	190,045	206,352	190,000	190,000	190,000
145034	Res Trap Lic-15yrs & older(56:252(A)(1))	28,595	12,736	29,000	15,000	15,000
145035	Non-res Trapper Lic (56:252(A)(1))	637	1,105	500	500	500
145036	Combo-Hunting & Fishing (56:646)	268,276	213,395	260,000	0	0
145037	Migratory Game Bird License (56:152)	31,739	27,291	30,000	30,000	30,000
145040	Combo-Hunting & Big Game (56:646)	902,490	1,074,909	900,000	0	0
145041	Combo-Basic & Saltwater Fishing (56:646)	588,272	1,012,665	700,000	0	0
145042	Combo-Basic/Salt & Hunt/Big Game (56:646)	375,051	312,263	350,000	0	0
145046	Non-res Preserve Hunting License (56:656)	0	1,080	0	0	0
145047	Resident Hook and Line License (56:302.1(A))	44,476	34,894	45,000	45,000	45,000
145048	Non-res Salt Fish-Season (56:302.1(C)(2)(a))	27,249	129,145	76,000	100,000	100,000
145049	Non-res Salt Fish-Trip (56:302.1(C)(2))	40,140	109,406	42,000	100,000	100,000
145050	Res Trapper Lic-14 yrs & under (56:252(A)(1))	1,794	623	1,500	1,500	1,500
145051	Non-res Bow License (56:105(B))	0	0	0	0	0
145052	Resident Muzzleloader License (56:104(A)(3))	0	73	100,000	100,000	100,000
145053	Non-res Muzzleloader License (56:104(A)(3))	0	0	0	0	0
145054	Resident Waterfowl Consev Stamp (56:152(A))	0	5	0	0	0
145056	Non-res combo Bas/Salt (2day trp) (:302.1(C))	0	0	0	20,000	20,000
(Sale of Commodities & Services)						
152200	Sale of Computer Listing Adm Dec	21,620	8,608	25,000	15,000	15,000
152201	Sale of Plats	15,776	15,658	16,000	16,000	16,000
152202	Sale of Confiscated Commodities	-280	96,204	10,000	100,000	100,000
152203	Sale of Promotional Materials Adm. Dec.	0	73	0	0	0
152204	Sale of Mammal book	0	956	0	0	0
152205	Sale of Bird Book	5,780	2,298	6,000	4,000	4,000
152206	Sale of Fish Books	12	0	0	0	0
152211	Sale of Maps	0	568	0	0	0
152213	Sale of Cookbooks (BR,I&E,NO Off) Adm Dec	23,280	1,051	2,000	0	0
152214	Sale of Cookbooks -Region 1 (Mindon)	132	0	0	0	0
152215	Sale of Cookbooks-Region 2 (Monroe)	312	0	0	0	0
152216	Sale of Cookbooks-Region 3 (Tioga)	588	0	0	0	0
152217	Sale of Cookbooks- Region 4 (Ferriday)	199	0	0	0	0
152218	Sale of Cookbooks- Region 5 (Lk Char)	468	0	0	0	0
152219	Sale of Cookbooks- Region 6 (Opelou)	168	0	0	0	0
152220	Sale of Cookbooks- Region 6A (New lb)	96	0	0	0	0
152221	Sale of Cookbooks- Region 8 (Houma)	120	0	0	0	0
152222	Sale of Wildflower Portfolio Book	9,741	30	1,000	0	0
152223	Sale of La. Conservationist Subscrip.	0	0	0	0	0
152224	Equipment Rentals-CAWS Unit-Lk Pon	0	2,916	0	0	0
(Receipts, Conversion, Property)						
161000	Sale of Surplus Propty & Equip.	179,133	100,597	15,000	15,000	15,000
(Receipts-From Private Sources)						
162002	Donation to Wildlife & Fisheries	100	348	0	0	0
162004	Donation to La. Conserv. Mag	9,896	80	2,000	0	0
162005	Donation to La. Help Our Wildlife	23,869	25,726	20,000	0	0
162015	Wildlife Tax Fund	85	0	0	0	0
162018	Sale of Caps	168	0	0	0	0
162019	Donation to Scenic Rivers Tsk Force (:1843(B))	0	2,000	0	0	0
(Receipts-Suspense)						
166003	Fur Deposits (56:252(5))	1,704	11,832	10,000	0	0
166004	Bait Dealers Permits-Perform Bonds	8,500	6,000	20,000	0	0
166005	Survey Fee Deposits	-26,768	-31,012	-10,000	0	0
(Receipts-Miscellaneous)						
167003	Miscellaneous Income	46,802	124,570	55,000	60,000	60,000
167004	L.O.O.P	0	0	0	0	0
167005	Overages	8,091	28,166	8,000	0	0
167007	Returned Check Serice Charge Adm Dec	1,220	1,725	2,000	2,000	2,000
167008	Workmen Compensation Checks	51,106	17,834	10,000	10,000	10,000
167010	Motorboat Postage Adm. Dec.	30,324	106,052	80,000	80,000	80,000
167012	Commercial License Postage	55,413	49,670	65,000	65,000	65,000
167013	CML Duplicate License	3,304	2,490	4,000	4,000	4,000
167014	Motorboat Duplicate Decals	3,343	0	3,000	0	0

DEPART OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES CONSERVATION FUND COLLECTIONS 88-91

167015	Shortage Adm Dec.	- 55	- 370	0	0	0
172007	Refunds from Group Benefits	542	0	0	0	0
	Adjust to Balance	-23,368	2,587	0	0	0
	TOTAL COLLECTIONS	23,348,287	24,583,607	24,452,260	24,245,165	22,695,165

MAJOR CHANGES - YEAR TO YEAR

1. + 18 NEW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS
+ 3 NEW I & E
+ 2 NEW ACCTS.

HB 1265 \$1.00 MILL - IFFY
PROJECTED AT 900,000 FUNDS 20 NEW POSITIONS TO BE IN PLACE AT
SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR.
NOTHING IS IN PLACE YET

COMMITTED TO PEOPLE - REALLY HAVE NO IDEA AT ALL ON \$

- TOTAL \$7 mill*
GF \$552,000
2. GOVERNOR PUT IN COST OF LIVING RAISES - 4% ACROSS BD. AND MERIT +
SEC-29-12 - LONGTIME EMPLOYEES ARE PROJECTED TO GET \$_____

GENERAL FUND TO PAY FOR THIS. BALANCE MUST BE ABSORBED.

3. ROCKEFELLER REVENUE DOWN YEAR TO YEAR \$2.00 MILL. WE WILL NEED TO MAKE
ADJUSTMENTS HERE. +
4. ADDED 4 NEW ALLIGATOR POSITIONS IN FUR & REFUGE
5. INC SALARY COST - TOTAL \$1,000,000 GENERAL FUND

LAST YR WRAP UP REV - MOST SOURCES - ON TARGET EXCEPT MINERAL INCOME
PARTICULARLY ROCKEFELLER *870 \$2.00 mill*

EXPENSES - BUDGET WISE EVERYONE WAS FAIRLY WELL ON TARGET

\$ TO CARRY FORWARD *\$5 mill from 1989, \$2 mill to 1990*

COMING YEAR BUDGET ESSENTIALLY GOT WHAT ASKED FOR

PROJECTIONS BUDGET PREP OCT PRIOR YEAR. STILL HAVE ROCK \$ IN AT HIGHER
LEVEL

NEED TO REVISE DOWNWARD

INCREASED SALARY COST 4% + 4% AND ADJUSTMENTS

REDUCED G.F. B/C TOO MUCH TO GO AROUND

+ CARRY OVER OF LAST YEAR ITEMS PURCHASED, NOT PAID FOR/B/C NO
REC'D

\$2.1 MILL PROPOSED PROBLEM COMING YEAR

IAFWA ACTIVITIES AND SOCIAL EVENTS

Friday, September 7

4 to 8 p.m., Registration, Hotel Lobby.
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Meeting, Wildlife Legislative
Fund of America.

Saturday, September 8

7 a.m., Breakfast, Executive Committee.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Registration, Hotel Lobby.
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Committee Meetings.
6 p.m., Casual Mixer, Queen Anne Ballroom.

Sunday, September 9

7 a.m., Breakfast, National Rifle Assoc. (by invitation).
8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Committee Meetings.
5:50 to 8:30 p.m., Steamboat Jazz & Dinner Cruise

Monday, September 10

7 a.m., Breakfast, Wildlife Legislative Fund of
America, (by invitation).
8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Registration, Hotel Lobby.
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., General Session, (opening).
9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Discussion Meetings.
10 a.m. to 1 p.m., New Orleans Cooking School,
Jackson Brewery.

Tuesday, September 11

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Business Session.
8, 9 & 11 a.m., Walking Tour of the French Quarter.
6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., Cocktail Reception.
7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Conference Banquet.
9:30 to 10:30 p.m., Dixieland Jazz Band.

Wednesday, September 12

8:30 a.m., Business Session, (adjourn).

A Spouse/Guest Hospitality Room will be open in the
Beauregard Salon, Saturday through Wednesday.

GENERAL SESSION
"The 90s: Decade of Opportunity"

Monday, September 10

- 8:30 a.m. IAFWA Welcome and Call to Order,
R. Max Peterson, Executive Vice President.
- 8:35 a.m. President's Message, William Molini,
Director, Nevada Department of Wildlife.
- 8:45 a.m. Welcome to Louisiana, Honorable Buddy
Roemer, Governor of Louisiana,
- introduced by Virginia Van Sickle,
Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries.
- 9:00 a.m. A New Spirit of Interagency Cooperation,
Honorable John Breaux, Senator.
- 9:30 to 10 a.m. BREAK
- New Opportunities for Management of Fish and
Wildlife Habitat, Moderator - Bob Brantley,
Executive Director, Florida Game and Fresh Water
Fish Commission.**
- 10:00 a.m. "No Net Loss Policy" - A View from
President's Office - TBA.
- 10:30 a.m. Implication of COE/EPA Memorandum of
Agreement, Norm Thomas, EPA.
- 10:45 a.m. Private Sector Perspective - "The National
Wetlands Coalition" - Bill Szabo, Executive
Director, National Wetlands Coalition.
- 11:00 a.m. Implications of Federal Refuge Plan "2003",
John Turner, Director, U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service.
- 11:15 a.m. Fish & Wildlife in 1990, Constance
Herriman, Assistant Secretary of the
Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

11:30 a.m. Panel Discussion.

12:00 noon LUNCH

Creative Funding Possibilities: The Best in North America - Moderator, Steve N. Wilson, Director, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

1:30 p.m. Innovative Funding Sources, Vernon Bevill, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife Conservation.

1:45 p.m. Volunteers! - Jane Lyons, National Audubon Society.

2:00 p.m. Civil Penalties: Valuing the Status of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Dr. Jerry Clark, Assistant Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

2:15 p.m. Panel Discussion.

3 to 3:30 p.m. BREAK

Animal Rights Insights - Moderator, William Molini, Director, Nevada Department of Wildlife

3:30 p.m. Implications for Fish and Wildlife Management Programs, Jack Berryman, Counselor Emeritus, IAFWA.

3:45 p.m. Economic and Social Impacts, Collin Maxwell, Executive Vice President of the Canadian Wildlife Federation, Ottawa, Canada.

4:00 p.m. What is the Public Motivation? - Neal Jotham, Coordinator, Humane Trapping Program. Canadian Wildlife Service.

4:15 p.m. Panel Discussion, Questions (until 5 p.m.)

State of Louisiana



DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

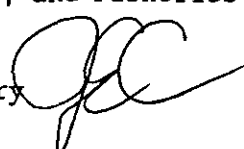
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
504/765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

August 2, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO: Inland Fisheries, Marine Fisheries, and Fisheries Research Division Personnel

FROM: Jerry E. Clark, Assistant Secretary 

SUBJECT: Reorganization

The reorganization within the Office of Fisheries that began with the creation of the Research Division just after the first of the year is complete. Enclosed are organizational charts that indicate the changes made and the chain of command within each division. If anyone finds any errors, please bring them to the attention of your Division Administrator.

I believe the figures are self-explanatory except for the use of dashed lines. The first dashed lines you should notice are those from the Assistant Administrators to the general organizational line that leads to the various field positions. This indicates that the Assistant Administrators do not have line authority over field biologists. All project coordinators, and others connected directly to the general organizational line, will report directly to the Division Administrator. The dashed line indicates that the Division Administrator may, however, ask the Assistant Administrator to supervise a particular task or special project. It does not indicate that the Division Administrator will assign any permanent or ongoing supervisory responsibility to the Assistant Administrator. A specific list of duties of Assistant Administrators is currently being prepared with their input. Dashed lines are also shown for other administrative positions in each office, and they represent the same supervisory situation as for the Assistant Administrator.

I have been reviewing the individual performance plans as they have been coming in, and they all appear to reflect the duties indicated by the organizational charts, so I am sure that you are already informed as to most of the changes that have taken place. The individual performance plans that I have seen are in very good shape, and I would like to thank you for the time you have

MEMO TO:

Inland Fisheries, Marine Fisheries, Fisheries Research

August 2, 1990

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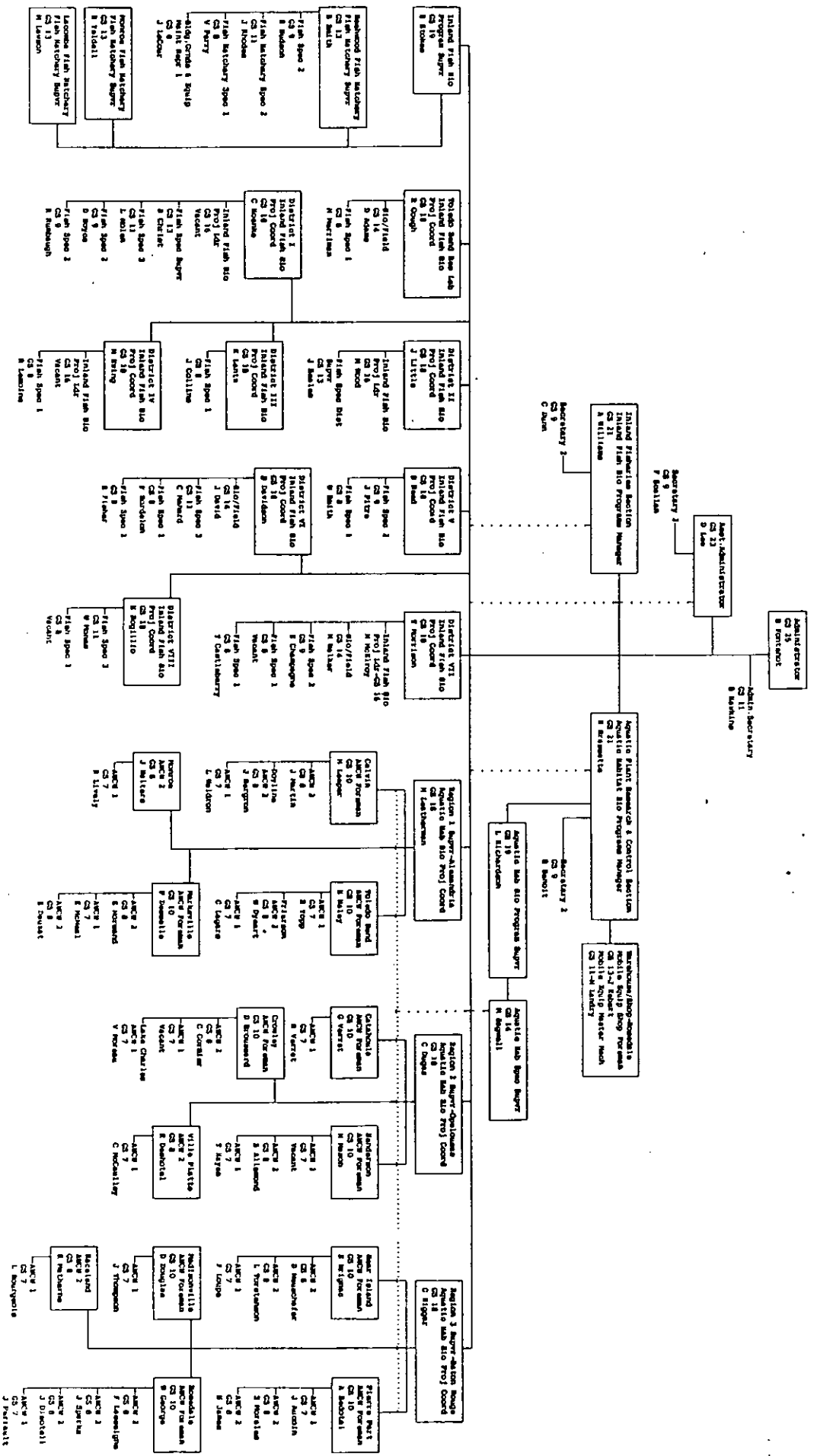
obviously spent on these important documents, and compliment you on their quality. These performance plans are a major shift in personnel management, and for your first crack at it, they are exceptional.

The organizational changes that have taken place in the Office are neither superficial nor are they trivial. They represent a major shift in focus. I believe that form should follow function, and the creation of the Research Division is a manifestation of that philosophy. With the legislature empowering the Commission to make more and more decisions about fisheries, the burden on the Office of Fisheries to provide more and better guidance to the Commission grows proportionately. The Fisheries Research Division will allow several people to concentrate full-time on preparing the necessary stock assessments that will be fundamental to providing the Commission with good advice.

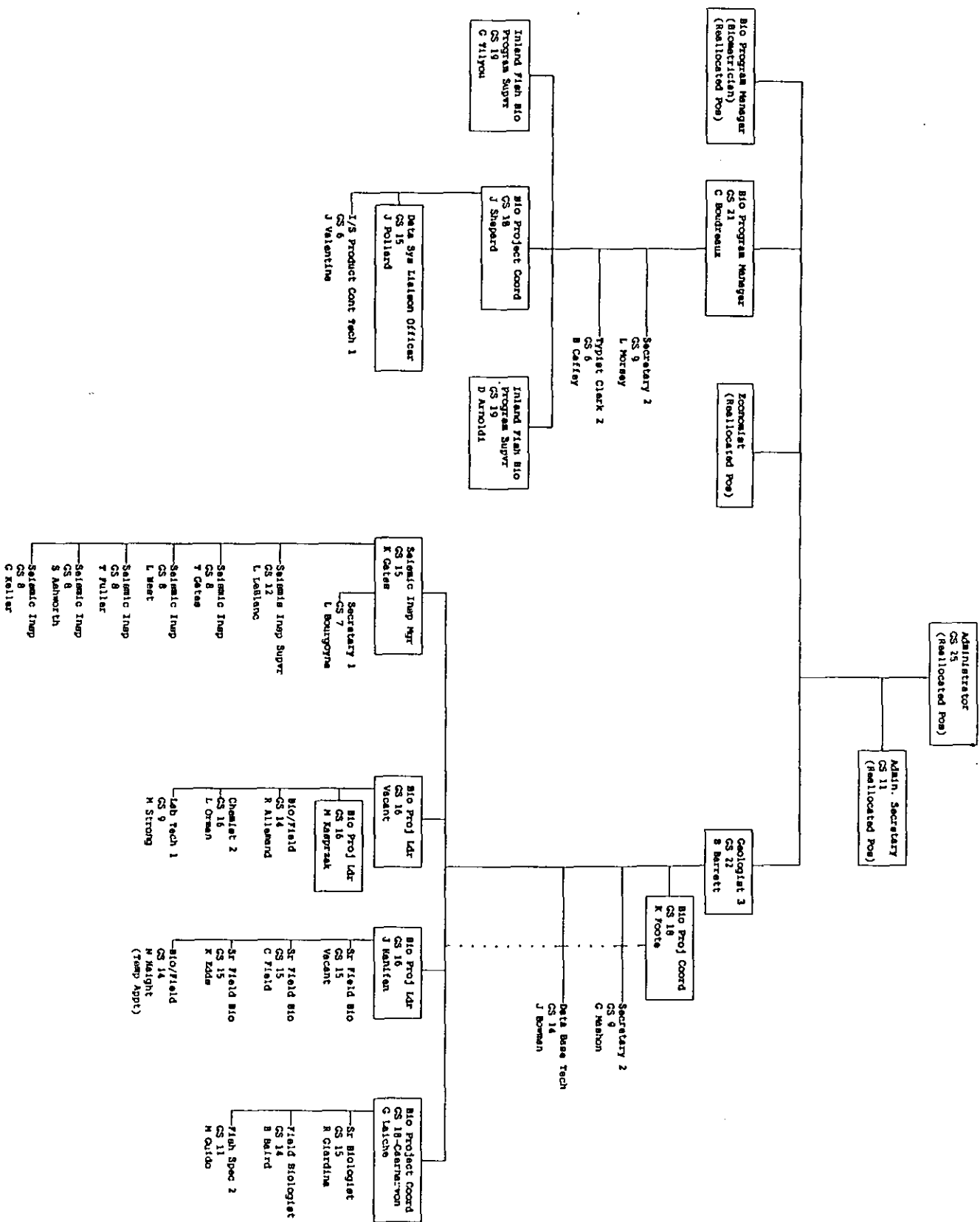
Finally, for those who have understandably been affected by the uncertainties associated with this major reorganization, I promise you that there are no more plans for major upheavals in the Office. The new organization is in place, everyone knows their place in it, and through the performance plans, everyone should know exactly what they will be doing over the next year or so. All I can say now is, let's be about it.

JEC:csg

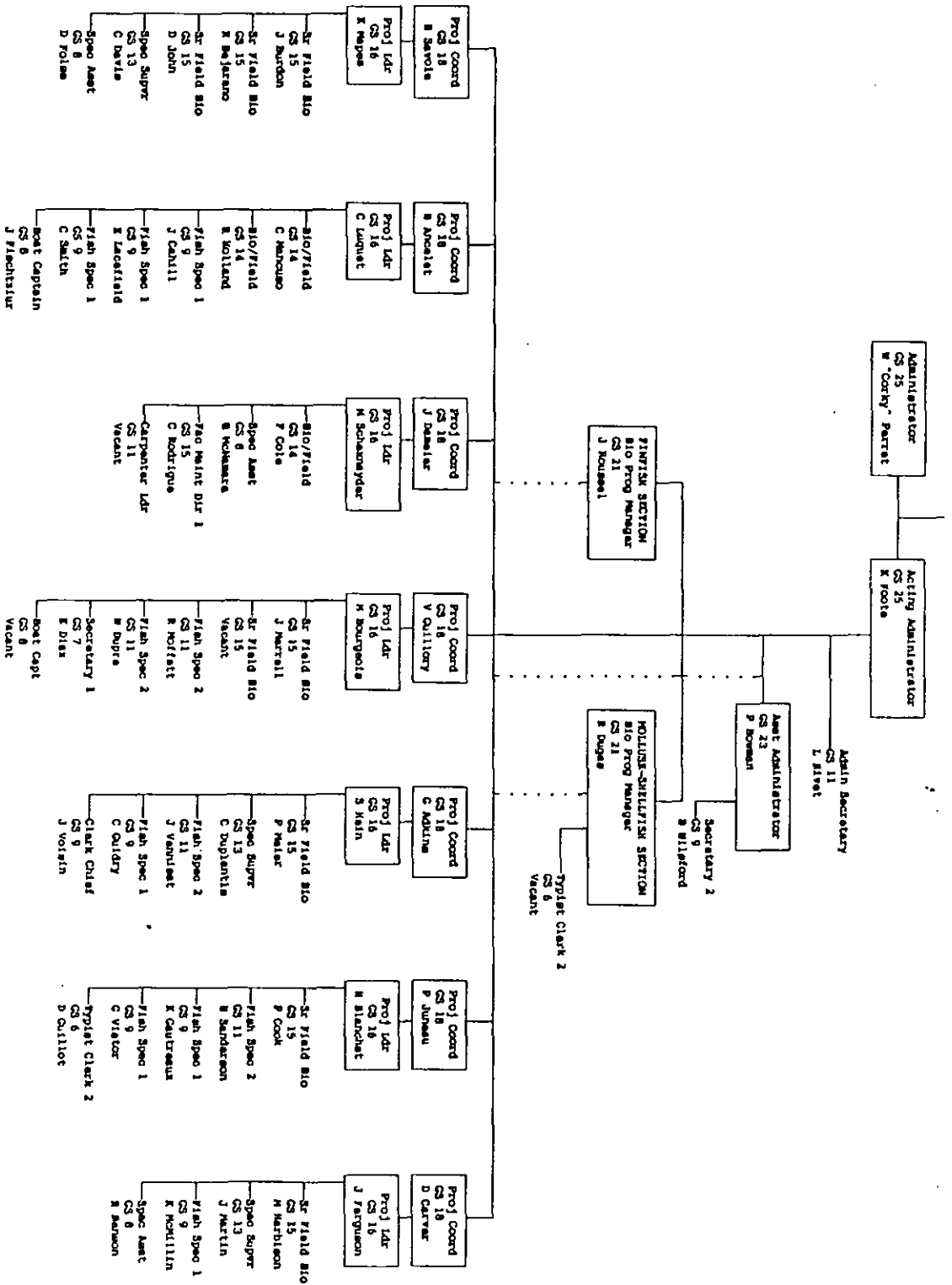
JULY 1, 1964



FISHBONES RESEARCH DIVISION
JULY 1, 1990



NAVY FISH/ICES DIVISION
JULY 1, 1990



Office of
The District Attorney

38th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
PARISH OF CAMERON
STATE OF LOUISIANA

JERRY G. JONES
District Attorney
GLENN W. ALEXANDER
First Assistant
JENNIFER JONES
Assistant

North Courthouse Square
Post Office Drawer M
Cameron, Louisiana 70631
Telephone: 318/775-5713
318/775-5720

August 8, 1990

Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

Gentlemen:

I understand that there is at the present time some question as to the advisability of maintaining the Wildlife and Fisheries plane which is and has been since 1985 based at Rockefeller Refuge in Cameron Parish. I would like to impress upon you how vital this plane has been in the enforcement aspect of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as well as in other areas during the past several years.

As you surely recognize, Cameron Parish is very unique in that it is the largest parish geographically, spanning almost a million acres, the vast majority of which consists of wetlands. In addition to that, your jurisdiction, as well as ours in the District Attorney's Office, extends into the territorial waters of the Gulf of Mexico all along our coast.

This plane has been absolutely essential in the apprehension and prosecution of persons who have engaged in illegal shrimping during closed seasons in the Gulf of Mexico, in illegal oystering activities in Calcasieu Lake, and in the location and removal of unattended gill nets in numerous locations throughout the parish.

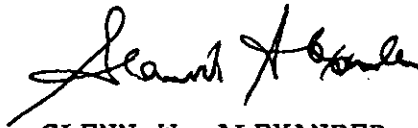
We have taken a very active position in prosecuting Wildlife and Fisheries violations in our parish, and the availability of the necessary equipment is absolutely essential in order for us to successfully continue in this endeavor. The nearest Wildlife and Fisheries plane to our parish other than the one based at Rockefeller is located in New Iberia. When a Wildlife and Fisheries violation is called in or reported, the necessary surveillance by air is often critical, but could not be accomplished on a timely basis without the Rockefeller plane.

Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission
August 8, 1990
Page 2.

This immediate availability is also critical in search and rescue efforts in our parish, for which the plane has been used on several occasions in the past few years.

In short, we in the District Attorney's Office believe it to be of greatest importance that you maintain your aircraft at the Rockefeller Refuge in Cameron Parish as an important part of the enforcement process and our prosecution efforts in Wildlife and Fisheries cases. If you should need any additional information from our office, or if we can provide any other specific documentation or answer any questions you may have, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Glenn W. Alexander", with a stylized, flowing script.

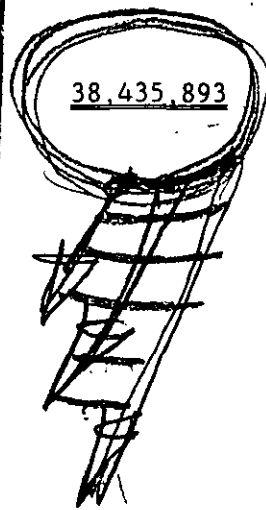
GLENN W. ALEXANDER

GWA/cl

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
 RECAP BUDGET/ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
 1988-89 ACTUAL, 1989-90 BUDGET VS. ACTUAL, 1991 BUDGET

	ACTUAL 1988-89	BUDGET 1989-90	ACTUAL 1989-90	BUDGET 1990-91
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY				
Administrative	5,361,984	6,157,531	5,564,026	5,414,082
Enforcement	8,495,796	9,069,179	9,007,715	10,025,899
I & E	1,318,125	1,781,217	1,608,950	1,503,686
Seafood Promotion	457,137	607,785	483,219	707,778-2
Fur & Alligator Council	158,344	300,000	175,498	300,000
TOTAL OFFICE OF SECRETARY	15,791,386	17,915,720	16,839,408	17,951,445
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE				
Administrative	128,985	235,973	232,888	216,610
Fur & Refuge	3,552,023	4,780,627	4,258,408	4,844,581
Habitat Conservation	324,507	595,041	378,124	612,496
Game	4,385,812	4,624,248	4,452,716	4,691,668
TOTAL OFFICE OF WILDLIFE	8,391,327	10,235,889	9,322,136	10,365,355
OFFICE OF FISHERIES				
Administrative	78,809	170,529	182,044	151,548
Saltwater	5,160,231	5,797,203	4,640,473	5,116,344
Freshwater	3,550,228	4,614,904	3,820,166	4,851,201
TOTAL OFFICE OF FISHERIES	8,789,268	10,582,636	8,642,683	10,119,093
TOTAL WILDLIFE & FISHERIES	<u>32,971,981</u>	<u>38,734,245</u>	<u>34,804,227</u>	<u>38,435,893</u>

*Income → Shell Dredging
 Mitigation*



REVENUE COMPARISONS

	1984-1985	1985-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-90 as of 07-90
CONSERVATION FUND						
Royalties/Oil & Gas	8,590,418.00	6,366,422.00	4,807,971.00	4,740,349.00	4,103,041.00	2,830,351.00
Royalties/Other			2,232,069.00	2,184,998.00	4,695,232.00	3,329,717.00
Rentals on Land	539,480.00	614,348.00	654,171.00	649,825.00	707,821.00	716,029.00
Other Income on Land	147,086.00	113,671.00	107,307.00	103,581.00	143,146.00	149,819.00
Interest Income		77,705.00	33,914.00	51,488.00	84,793.00	197,517.00
Federal					2,766.00	0.00
Severance Taxes	3,343,213.00	2,309,599.00	161,983.00	145,155.00	128,411.00	136,571.00
License Sales	9,652,846.00	8,677,326.00	11,359,798.00	14,881,767.00	13,145,608.00	14,210,572.00
Miscellaneous Income	449,004.00	514,873.00	1,051,999.00	591,124.00	1,572,789.00	443,050.00
Adjustment to Revenue			640,260.00	129,670.00	617,923.00	
TOTAL	22,722,047.00	18,673,944.00	21,049,472.00	23,477,957.00	25,201,530.00	22,012,626.00
ROCKEFELLER REFUSE FUND						
Royalties	9,568,368.00	7,177,992.00	3,418,144.00	3,275,154.00	2,754,587.00	948,990.00
Rentals on Land	340,294.00	94,578.00	56,211.00	745.00	84,160.00	330.00
Other Income on Land	1,654,234.00	574,040.00	23,122.00	1,112,865.00	286,194.00	37,593.00
Interest Income	539,171.00	379,163.00	126,284.00	18,286.00	19,501.00	31,088.00
Miscellaneous Income	51,468.00	35,787.00	22,451.00	95,169.00	40,200.00	65,375.00
Adjustment to Revenue			(1,741,563.00)	(2,525,491.00)	400,634.00	0.00
TOTAL	12,153,535.00	8,261,560.00	1,904,649.00	1,976,728.00	3,585,276.00	1,083,376.00
ROCKEFELLER TRUST FUND						
Interest Income		1,557,506.00	1,253,036.00	1,222,614.00	1,595,472.00	1,572,516.00
TOTAL		1,557,506.00	1,253,036.00	1,222,614.00	1,595,472.00	1,572,516.00
MARSH ISLAND REFUGE FUND						
Royalties	262,057.00	161,758.00	313,032.00	154,872.00	125,194.00	212,034.00
Rentals on Land	167,015.00	53,419.00	12,048.00		6,826.00	14,773.00
Other Income on Land	8,232.00	126,977.00	70,617.00	25,690.00	29,446.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	144,627.00	35,110.00	197,659.00	107,449.00	101,484.00	54,434.00
TOTAL	581,931.00	377,264.00	593,356.00	288,011.00	262,950.00	281,241.00
MARSH ISLAND TRUST FUND						
Interest Income	561,675.00	342,092.00	297,653.00	316,342.00	419,533.00	448,999.00
TOTAL	561,675.00	342,092.00	297,653.00	316,342.00	419,533.00	448,999.00
MARSH ISLAND FUND #2						
Interest Income		5,212.00	2,743.00	27,974.00	38,853.00	47,251.00
TOTAL		5,212.00	2,743.00	27,974.00	38,853.00	47,251.00

	1984-1985	1985-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989-90 as of 07-90
MI CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT						
Other Income on Land				211,546.00	265,458.00	100,137.00
TOTAL				211,546.00	265,458.00	100,137.00
LA CONSERVATIONIST FUND						
Receipts					594,261.00	225,633.00
Miscellaneous Income					702.00	(59.00)
TOTAL					594,963.00	225,574.00
SEAFOOD PROMOTION MARKET						
Interest Income		15,607.00	13,282.00	14,203.00	37,215.00	42,627.00
Licenses		331,360.00	524,678.00	472,386.00	447,588.00	415,860.00
Miscellaneous Income		8.00			52,116.00	3,946.00
TOTAL		346,975.00	537,960.00	486,589.00	536,919.00	462,433.00
WLF FUR & ALLIGATOR FUND						
Licenses				122,800.00	84,240.00	105,997.00
Miscellaneous					0.00	160.00
TOTAL				122,800.00	84,240.00	106,157.00
LA. DUCK STAMP FUND						
Interest Income					94.00	48,148.00
Licenses						0.00
Other Licenses, Permits					4,682.00	348,294.00
Other Receipts					159,359.00	730,876.00
TOTAL					164,135.00	1,127,318.00
WILDLIFE & NATURAL HERIT.						
Other Licenses, Permits						570,580.00
Other Receipts						5.00
TOTAL						570,585.00
GENERAL FUND						
State Funds						363,871.00
TOTAL						363,871.00
FEDERAL	4,599,893.00	4,836,106.00	6,155,279.00	5,125,059.00	5,545,127.00	5,072,591.00
OTHER	337,861.00	914,872.00	657,231.00	344,851.00	720,592.00	325,851.00
TOTAL	40,956,942.00	35,315,531.00	32,451,379.00	33,600,471.00	39,015,048.00	33,200,526.00

1990 NON-MARSH ALLIGATOR TAG ALLOTMENT BY ZONE AND PARISH CONT'D
LAKE REGION

ZONE	PARISH	HABITAT	ACRES OF HABITAT	TAG ALLOTMENT	REMARKS
Ferriday	Concordia	Lower Sunk Lake	600	5	Three Rivers W.M.A. (Experimental Harvest)
		Silver Lakes	400	5	Three Rivers W.M.A. (Experimental Harvest)
	Tensas	Lake St. Joseph	800	20	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
		Lake St. John	200	20	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
			2,000	50	
Lake Charles	Evangeline	Chicot Lake	1,625	16	State Parks (Experimental Harvest)
			1,625	16	
Opelousas	Avoyelles	Grassy Lake WMA	1,000	20	Highest Bidder Basis
		Spring Bayou WMA	5,000	50	Highest Bidder Basis
	St. Martin	Atchalayaya N.W.R. Bayou des Ourse Brake	1,300	13	Highest Bidder Basis

1990 NON-MARSH ALLIGATOR TAG ALLOTMENT BY ZONE AND PARISH
LAKE REGION

ZONE	PARISH	HABITAT	ACRES OF HABITAT	TAG ALLOTMENT	REMARKS
Minden	Caddo	Cross Lake	500	20	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
	DeSoto	*Clear Lake	1,500	10	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
		**Smithport Lake	1,500	10	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
		***Toledo Bend	3,000	20	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
			6,500	60	
Monroe					No Public Lakes No Experimental Harvest
Tioga	Grant	Iatt Lake	4,000	20	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
	Rapides	Indian Creek	500	10	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
		Kincaid Lake	1,000	15	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
	Winn & Natchitoches	Saline Lake	3,000	20	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
	Vernon	Anacoco Lake	1,000	10	Public Lake (Experimental Harvest)
			9,500	75	

1990 NON-MARSH ALLIGATOR TAG ALLOTMENT BY ZONE AND PARISH CONT'D
LAKE REGION

ZONE	PARISH	HABITAT	ACRES OF HABITAT	TAG ALLOTMENT	REMARKS
Opelousas	Iberville	Atchafalaya N.W.R. Bayou des Glaise Brake	2,000	20	Highest Bidder Basis
			9,300	103	
Lake Region Totals			28,925	304	Experimental Harvests
<p>Additionally: Any private alligator habitat determined by Department personnel to have a reproducing population may be issued tags at the rate of one tag per 100 acres of habitat.</p>					

* North of La. 509 Bridge

** South of La. 509 Bridge

*** That portion of the upper end of Toledo Bend in DeSoto Parish east of the Main Channel and north of Circle Drive Landing.

1990 NON-MARSH ALLIGATOR TAG ALLOTMENT BY ZONE AND PARISH
CYPRESS-TUPELO SWAMP REGION

ZONE	PARISH	ACRES OF HABITAT	TAG ALLOTMENT	ACRES/TAG	REMARKS
Opelousas	Iberville	29,880	120	250	Tag Allotment based upon night counts and alligator model.
	Lafayette	1,200	5	250	
	Pointe Coupee	1,000	4	250	
	W.Baton Rouge	7,040	28	250	
SUB TOTAL				157	250
Baton Rouge	Ascension	40,320	161	250	
	E.Baton Rouge	2,000	8	250	
	Livingston	66,720	267	250	
	Tangipahoa	36,181	145	250	
SUB TOTAL				581	250
New Orleans	St. Charles	39,340	157	250	
	St. James	76,960	308	250	
	St. John	104,320	417	250	
SUB TOTAL				882	250

1990 NON-MARSH ALLIGATOR TAG ALLOTMENT BY ZONE AND PARISH CONT'D
CYPRESS-TUPELO SWAMP REGION

ZONE	PARISH	ACRES OF HABITAT	TAG ALLOTMENT	ACRES/TAG	REMARKS
New Iberia- Bourg	Assumption	98,560	394	250	
	Iberia	31,550	126	250	
	Lafourche	112,350	449	250	
	St. Mary	60,190	241	250	
	Terrebonne	43,014	172	250	
<hr/>					
SUB TOTAL		345,664	1,382	250	
<hr/>					
SWAMP TOTAL		749,625	3,002	250	

ATCHAFALAYA BASIN ALLIGATOR HABITAT

REGION	ACREAGE	DESCRIPTION
A. Henderson Lake	15,000	Bounded on the West by the West Guide Levee, on the North by Little Fardoche Bayou, on the East by the Haha Bay and Gim Slough and on the South by La. Hwy. 3177.
B. Crook Chene Cove- Buffalo Cove	32,000	Beginning at the NW corner of Attakapas W.M.A.: A line North along Lake Fausse Point Cut to Bayou Benoit; West to the West Guide Levee, North to the East-West Canal located approximately 3 miles South of Catahoula, La.: East approximately 2 miles to canal; Southeast on that same canal to Bayou Crook Chene; East to the main channel of the Atchafalaya River; South to the North boundary of Attakapas W.M.A.; west to point of beginning.
C. Spike Bay-Berry Lake	8,000	Beginning at a point 1-1/2 miles NW of Bayou Sorrel Landing: West along canal 5 miles; South along Spike Bay for 2 miles; East to intersect Bayou Sorrel then continue East along Bayou Sorrel to East Guide Levee; North to point of beginning.
D. Upper Grand River Flats	12,000	Beginning at Upper Grand River Landing: North along East Guide Levee approximately 9 miles to a canal running NW; NW along that canal 2-1/2 miles to King's Ditch; South approximately 5 miles to include Billy Little Lakes; SE approximately 4 miles to intersection of Upper Grant River and Little Tensas Bayou, East along Upper Grand River to point of beginning.

ATCHAFALAYA BASIN ALLIGATOR HABITAT CONT'D

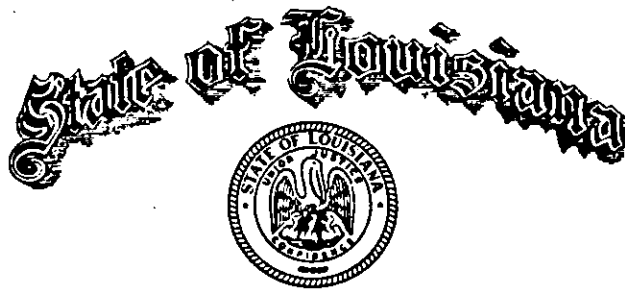
REGION	ACREAGE	DESCRIPTION
E. Bayou Pigeon-Belle River-Flat Lake	140,000	Beginning at Bayou Pigeon Landing: South along East Guide Levee to Morgan City (excluding Flat Lake); NNW along East side of the main channel of Six Mile Lake approximately 10 miles to 21-Inch Canal; NE on 21-Inch Canal to Bayou Boutte; North on Bayou Boutte to the East boundary line of Attakapas W.M.A. then north along its East boundary to Grand Lake; North along the East bank of Grand Lake to Keelboat Pass; NE along Keelboat Pass and Flat Lake Pass to intersection of Williams Canal and a canal running SW-NE; Northeast along that canal to intersection of Intracoastal Canal (East Guide Levee): South to Bayou Pigeon Landing.
Total alligator habitat within basin habitat type	207,000 acres	Tags may be issued at the rate of one tag per 1,280 acres of habitat.

1990 NON-MARSH ALLIGATOR TAG ALLOTMENT BY REGIONS

REGION	ACRES OF HABITAT	POTENTIAL TAG ALLOTMENT	ACRES/TAG	REMARKS
Lakes	100,000	1,000	100	Includes public lakes as well as private Cypress-Lake habitat.
Cypress-Tupelo Swamp	750,000	3,000	250	Swamp habitat outside the Atchafalaya Basin.
Atchafalaya Basin	207,000	161	1,280	That portion of the Atchafalaya Basin determined to be Cypress-Tupelo swamp containing permanent water as determined by aerial observations as well as approximately 400 miles of travel by boat during April-June, 1985.
GRAND TOTAL	1,057,000		4,161	

Approved by:

Virginia Van Sickle
 Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
 La. Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800
July 25, 1990

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

Mr. Warren I. Pol, Commissioner
Post Office Box 64617
Baton Rouge, LA 70896

Dear Warren:

Enclosed for your information is a recent opinion written by Don Puckett concerning appointments to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

With warm regards,

Virginia

Virginia Van Sickle



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 19, 1990

TO: Virginia Van Sickle
FROM: Donald E. Puckett
SUBJ: Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Appointments

Article IX, Section 7 of the 1974 Constitution provides that the Commission shall consist of seven members appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate. Six members shall serve overlapping terms of six years and one member shall serve a term concurrent with the Governor's. No member who has served six years or more shall be eligible for reappointment.

The question presented is whether or not Commissioner A who has served five and one half years, with six months remaining, can be reappointed to serve out the unexpired term of Commissioner B who has served four and one half years, with one and one half years remaining, but who intends to resign. This section contemplates reappointment in two places. First with regard to the member who serves a term concurrent with that of the Governor, since the Governor is only elected for one four-year term and subject to re-election for one additional four-year term, the member who serves concurrently with the Governor would have to be reappointed for the second four-year term should the Governor be re-elected.

The second reference to reappointment is in the last sentence quoted which makes ineligible for reappointment any member who has served six years or more. Arguably, the second provision could apply only to the one member who serves concurrent with that of the Governor. However, I question if this provision is necessary to address that situation since the first provision itself makes clear that the term is concurrent. Therefore, the second provision would seem unnecessary to authorize the reappointment of the Governor's concurrent member.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Virginia Van Sickle
July 19, 1990
Page 2

Therefore, I must conclude that this provision also contemplates reappointment of the other six members. Apparently this provision contemplates that if any of the other six six-year term members is reappointed prior to the expiration of six years, they may serve out an additional term, the only prohibition being that they have not served six years or more prior to reappointment.

Thus, there are three conceivable situations wherein reappointment of the other six members can occur:

SITUATION ONE: NEW COMMISSIONER APPOINTED TO SERVE OUT UNEXPIRED TERM OF RESIGNING COMMISSION MEMBER, THEN REAPPOINTED TO SERVE NEW FULL SIX-YEAR TERM.

I believe this is clearly permissible under the Section. In fact, this has been done several times.

SITUATION TWO: SITTING COMMISSIONER RESIGNS PRIOR TO EXPIRATION OF FULL SIX-YEAR TERM, THEN REAPPOINTED FOR A SECOND FULL SIX-YEAR TERM.

It is my opinion that this is clearly impermissible. Although it is technically within the letter of Section 7, it does violence to the spirit which, in my opinion, is to generally limit commissioners to one six-year term. In this situation, the commissioner, by his own act, (premature resignation) circumvents what I believe to be the intent and spirit of Section 7.

SITUATION THREE: SITTING COMMISSIONER RESIGNS PRIOR TO EXPIRATION OF FULL SIX-YEAR TERM, THEN REAPPOINTED TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF FELLOW COMMISSIONER.

This, of course, is the present situation and unfortunately is the "grayest" in the context of Section 7. In support of upholding this practice, it can be said that this is merely a reverse of Situation One - the difference being that the unexpired term is the second term rather than first. However, in opposing this practice, it must be said that it shares what is, in my opinion, the impermissible feature of Situation Two, namely that the reappointment is made possible solely as a result of the act of the commissioner himself, namely premature resignation. That is to say, but for the premature resignation of the commissioner, the six years would toll and no reappointment would then be legally permissible.

Virginia Van Sickle
July 19, 1990
Page 3

In our research, we have looked for both cases and Attorney General opinions under both the 1974 Constitution and its 1921 predecessor - to no avail. Nor do the records of the 1974 Constitutional Convention shed any light on precisely what was intended to be allowed or precluded herein.

I note that in my review of past commission appointments, no sitting commissioner has been appointed to fill the unexpired term of a fellow commissioner. To my knowledge, all instances of reappointment have involved situations wherein a new commissioner was appointed to fill the unexpired term of a commissioner who resigned or otherwise left the commission prior to the running of his full term. In these situations the newly appointed commissioner was then reappointed for a full six-year term upon the expiration of the unexpired term he was originally appointed to fill, as set out in Situation One.

Since the proposed reappointment would have to be made by the Governor's Office, presumably his Executive Counsel would have to approve it legally. Therefore, it may be advisable to discuss this with Governor's Executive Counsel staff at this time. Please advise.

1990

January 1990							February 1990							March 1990							April 1990							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28					25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

May 1990							June 1990							July 1990							August 1990							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30		29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 1990							October 1990							November 1990							December 1990							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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30							28	29	30	31												30	31					

1991

January 1991							February 1991							March 1991							April 1991						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28				24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30			

May 1991							June 1991							July 1991							August 1991						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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26	27	28	29	30	31		30								28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30

September 1991							October 1991							November 1991							December 1991						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30						27	28	29	30	31											29	30	31			

Made in U.S.A

Final week

30 days

Oct 6 - Dank

3 ducks

2 mallards
pintail
reed bed

post system

Amish/Indian

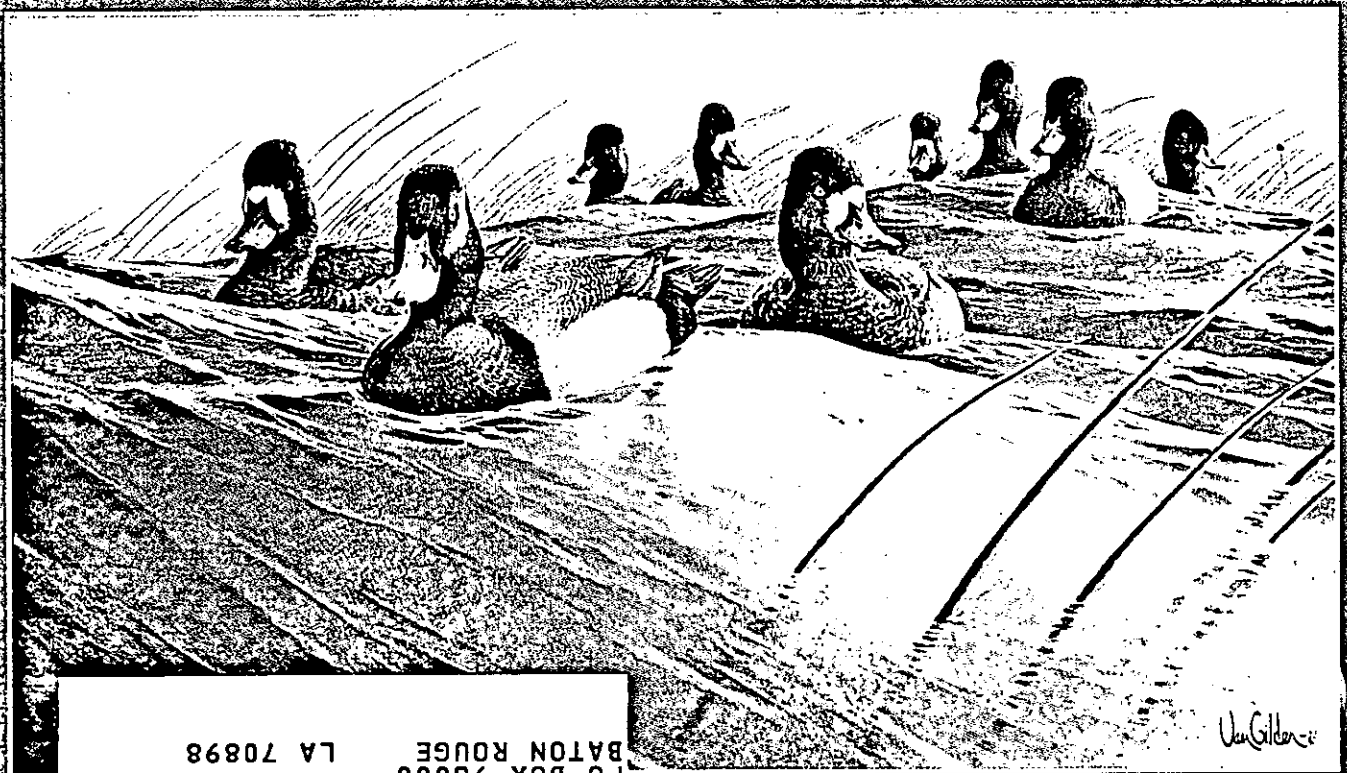
100 mixed hen

500 mixed hen

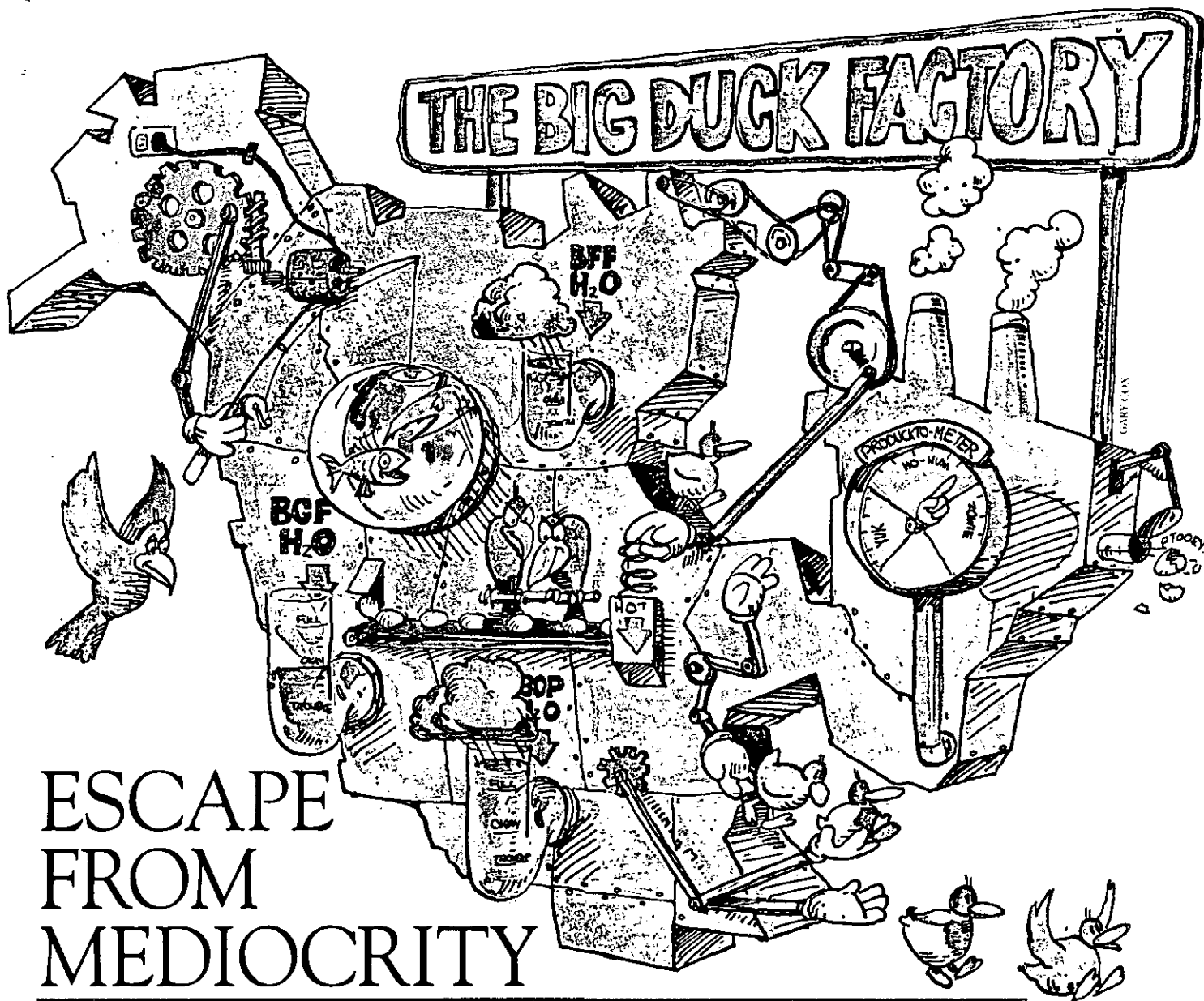
35 Allotment

DUCKS UNLIMITED

JULY
AUGUST 1990
MAGAZINE



*****5-DIGIT 70898
HUGH A BATEMAN
LA DEPT/WILDLF LA015053
PO BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE LA 70898



ESCAPE FROM MEDIOCRITY

Progress in waterfowl management, as in all human endeavors, depends on our ability to build on the successes and failures of those who toiled before us. Rarely are important conceptual breakthroughs left to gather dust. As in all fields though, there are individuals whose genius precedes the preparedness of peers and bureaucracies to grasp the pertinence of their work. We reprint here an excerpt from such an article, written as an internal report almost 40 years ago, by a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist from Louisiana, John J. Lynch.

Most profound revelations turn out to be simple in the end. This may be the reason Lynch chose to cut through the technical gobbledygook to communicate in the compelling style of this piece.

—Dr. Bruce D. J. Batt, DU Director of Research, Evaluation and Planning

Written in 1951, this classic essay is one of the best explanations of duck production ever penned. It's also the most entertaining.

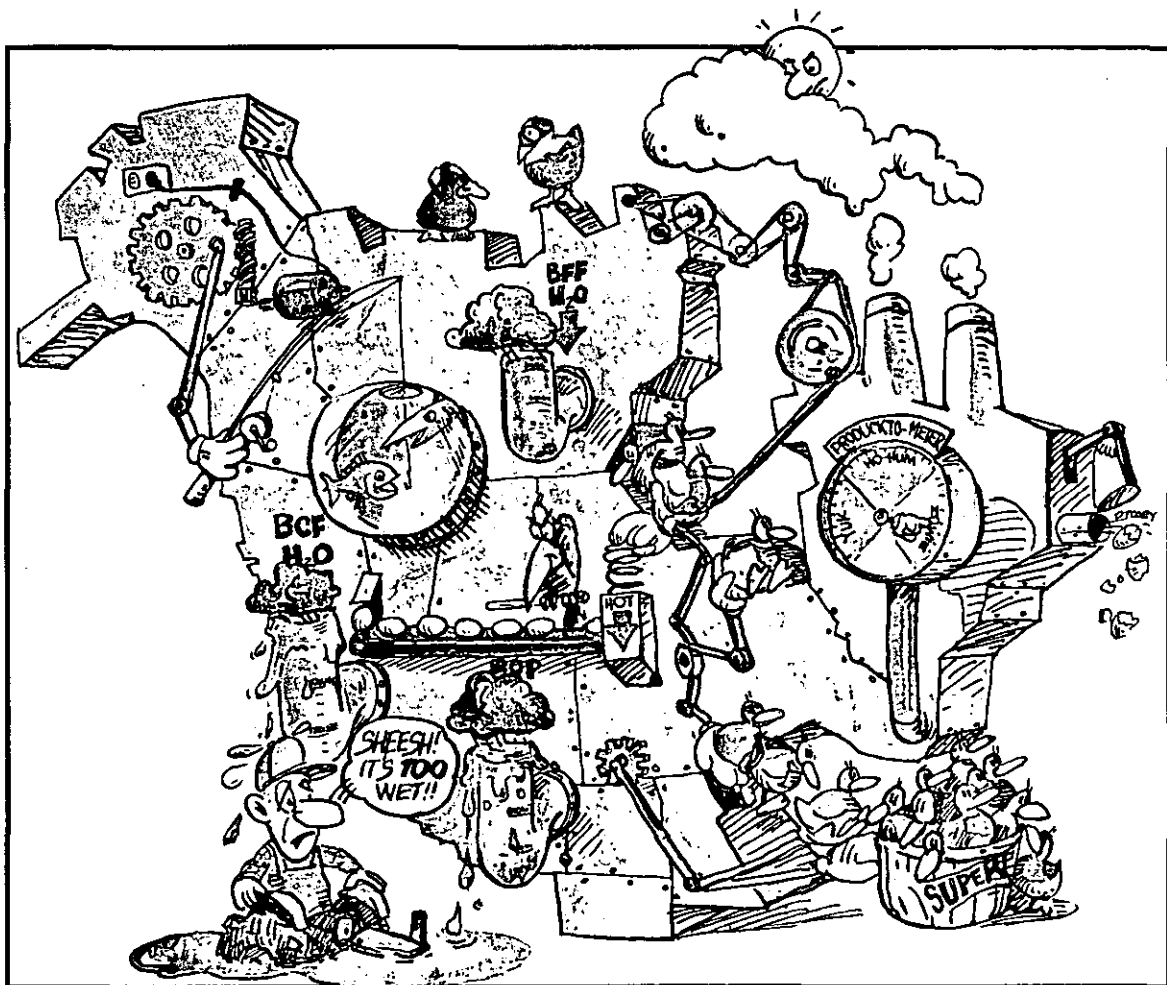
BY JOHN J. LYNCH

The Duck Crop comes in three distinct sizes: The Super-Crop, the Ordinary Crop, and No Crop a-Tall. On account of the Big Duck Factory, where the ducks are manufactured, is, like All of Gaul, divided into three parts: the Bald-Open Prairie, the Big Crow Factory and the Big Fish Factory.

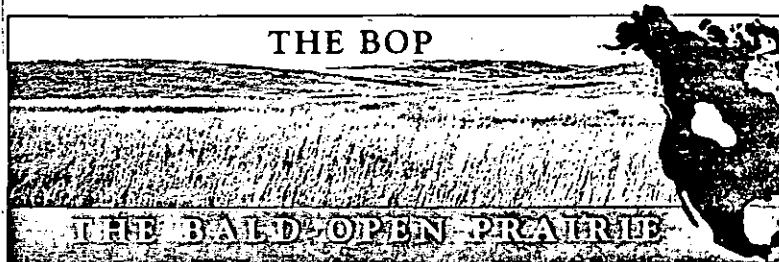


SUPER-CROP

On rare occasions the BOP gets dripping wet, and goes into real production. When this happens, the adjoining BCF is usually even wetter, and its production also shoots up. Their combined productivity gives us a Super-Crop that year, and gives the Duck Population a shot in the arm. A couple of years like this in a row, and Brother, we got ducks.



THE BOP



The duck doctors tell us that the real important part of the Big Duck Factory is the BOP, which is short for "Bald-Open Prairie." This BOP is a big wad of grasslands, about 100,000 square miles worth, lying in the heart of the Prairie Provinces in western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta, and running down a ways into Montana and North Dakota. It is genuine Prairie, or at least was, until the wheat farmer found out how easy it was to plow this land on account of there were no stumps. On account of there was no trees.

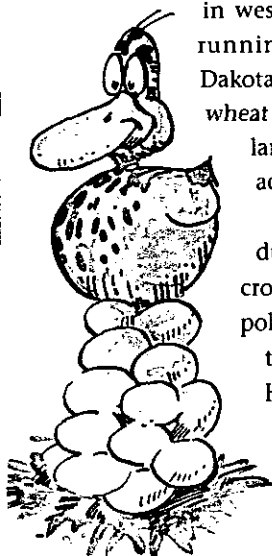
This BOP, as they go on to relate, can be the duck-raising'est place in North America. No crows, no magpies, and just the odd coyote and polecat. All in all, very few varmints that might take a sizeable cut out of the duck hatch. However, the thing this country lacks the most of, most of the time, is plain, ordinary, H-two-Oh. It is a dry country. In fact it is semi-arid, and usually is just one

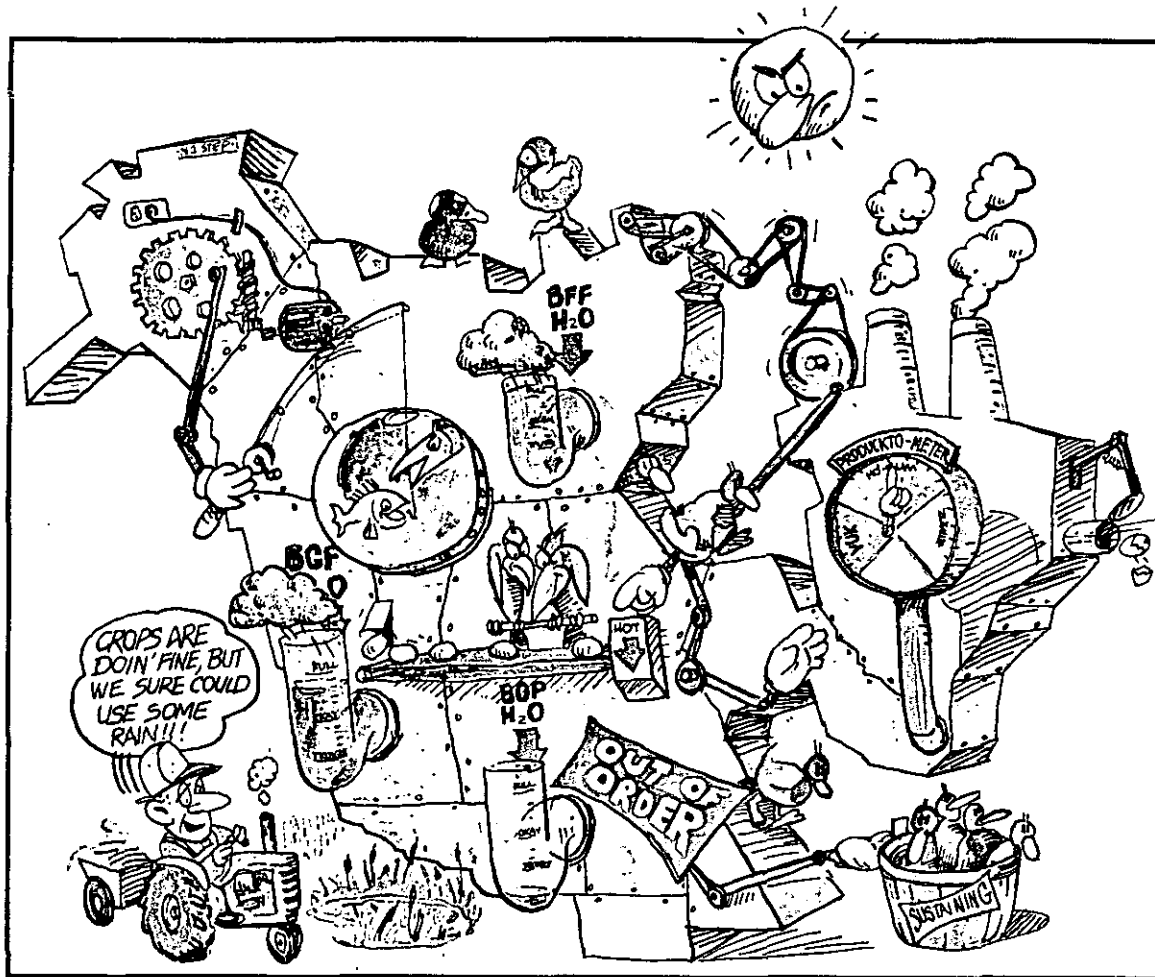
thundershower ahead of being a goddam desert.

When it does have water, it is a duck paradise. Let good fall rains soak the soil, and heavy winter snows melt quickly in spring so snow-water runs into the sloughs instead of into the ground, and the BOP is ready to raise ducks. Add liberal spring and summer rains, and these fowl multiply like bacteria.

Hulluvit is, this happy situation may come to pass only one or two years out of ten. What is worse, there will be other years when the BOP is just wet enough to delay the wheat farmer. The ducks get busy and shuck out a big batch of eggs, and the farmers get busy and plow 'em all under. The ducks try again, but now the water supply is fast dwindling away, and if the BOP fails to get good summer rains that year, the ducks have had it.

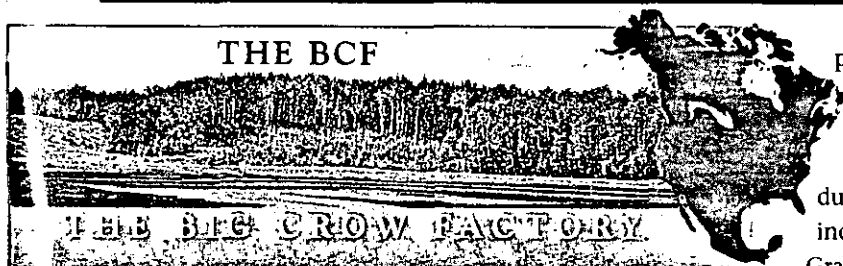
Rule no. 1. When the BOP is right, it alone will turn out one helluva great crop of ducks. And when there is enough Precip to enable the BOP to do this, all the other parts of the Big Duck Factory will more than likely be running over with water too, and will produce more ducks than usual. So, the BOP is the key to the Super-Crop.





SUSTAINING CROP

Most years, we have to be content with a pretty mediocre crop of ducks. Because the BOP of the Big Duck Factory, the part that could make all the difference, is shut down for alterations such as raising wheat or else there ain't enough water for its boilers. This throws the entire load onto the BCF and BFF of this Duck Factory. These two Lesser Factories, working at their usual rate of output, simply cannot turn out an exceptional Duck Crop. They produce instead a very ordinary crop, one that may vary a bit from year to year, but is seldom bad, and hardly ever real good. It's the Sustaining Duck Crop.



THE BCF

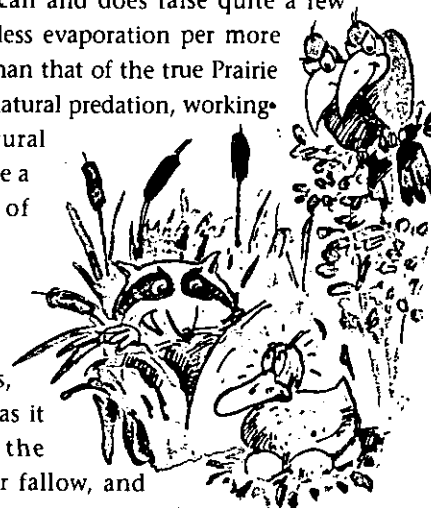
THE BIG CROW FACTORY

The next part of the Big Duck Factory is called the "BCF," which is short for "Big Crow Factory." On account of the large numbers of crows which inhabit this place, and which vie with magpies, polecats, and similar varmints to see who can do in the most duck nests before the farmer plows them under.

Most of this BCF, they tell us, is Parkland country, with many ponds and small lakes, and many millions of tiny potholes. All of the ponds and potholes are fringed by willow, alder, or aspen, which function as observation towers for crows and magpies. In between the ponds are stretches of Prairie that used to be grassland, but now are farmed to the approximate extent of 99 and 44/100 percent. Some ducks, like the bluewing and wigeon, seem to prefer the Parklands for nesting. Others, including the mallard, apparently like this BCF just as well as the BOP. Many mallards nest here every year and additional refugee mallards move in out of the BOP whenever it dries up (as usual). Still other ducks, notably the pintail, ain't having none, thank you, and when their

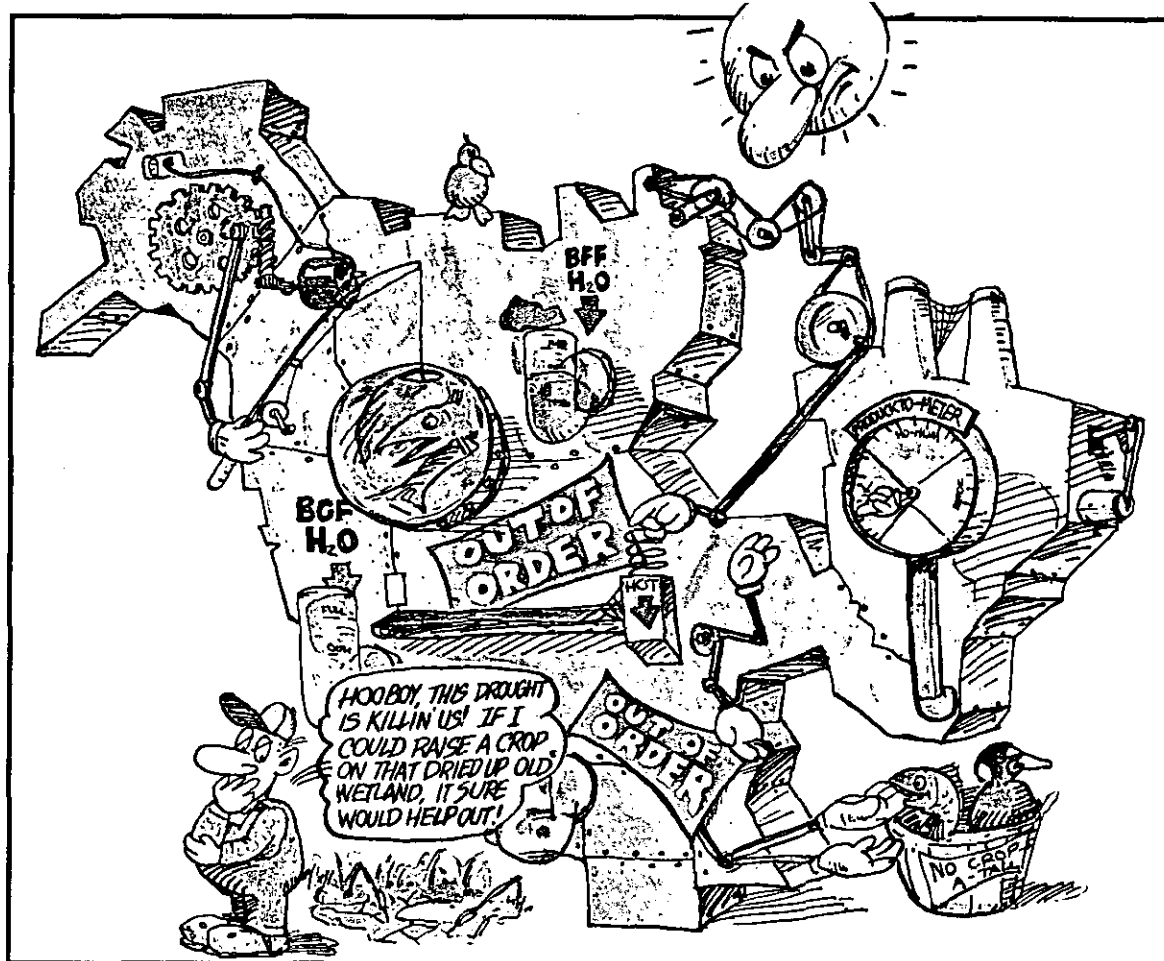
preferred grasslands dry up, they head for the only other "Bald-Open" treeless country available, which is the Far North.

This Parkland country can and does raise quite a few ducks. Its water economy (less evaporation per more inches of rainfall) is better than that of the true Prairie Grasslands. However, heavy natural predation, working hand in hand with agricultural interference, usually puts quite a dent in its production of ducklings. It seems to work like this: A mallard hen lays a hatfull of eggs in a Parkland stubblefield. The crows fail to find these eggs, and the old gal figures she has it made when along comes the farmer, plowing for summer fallow, and puts the permanent quietus on this particular nest. The long-suffering momma-duck then goes back to the end of the line, and starts all over. This gives the crows another shot at it, and they seldom miss twice in a row. Another hen might get a real early start, and figure to have her eggs hatched off before the stubble is plowed. But the varmints bust up this little playhouse. This hen's second try then comes off right in the big middle of the plowing season,



NO CROP A-TALL

Now and then both the BOP and the BCF go dry. When this happens, it is strictly *Mayday* for the game ducks. These Prairie birds hole up on the Bush, the Tundra, and any place else that is still on the damp side, cavort with the flying fish that are native to such places, and otherwise just hang on until the going gets better. The annual Duck Crop during this period adds up to No Crop a-Tall.



and has about as much chance for permanent success as an ice-cube in a mug of Mississippi Moon.

It all adds up to this. The Big Crow Factory can produce a crop of ducks, but this production is heavily handicapped. And the usual crop from this BCF shows it.

Rule no. 2. The Big Crow Factory can, and usually does turn out a fair crop of ducks, a crop that will stand some gunning. The BCF can do this without any help from the BOP, which it seldom gets much of anyway. On those rare occasions when the BOP is in full production, this BCF will more than likely turn out an extra good crop too, and together their production makes for the *Super-Crop*.

But the BCF cannot, by itself, produce a Super-Crop, nor can it alone maintain, year after year, the ultra-high population level resulting from a succession of earlier Super-Crops. By itself, the BCF produces a very ordinary crop, one that seldom is real bad, and hardly ever real good. It is the kind of a crop that maintains waterfowl populations at safe levels, with some left over for shooting purposes. The BCF is therefore the *key to the sustaining duck crop*.

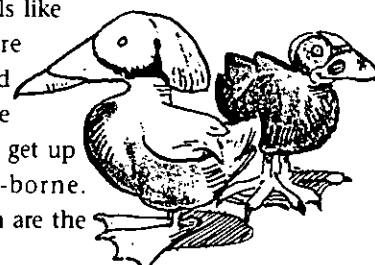
And this Sustaining Duck Crop is our Normal Duck Crop. It is too bad that we have to be content with a Norm that is ordinary to the point of being Mediocre, but that's the way things are, and there ain't a damn thing we can do about it. It is a wonder that the Duck Crop ever busts out of the "Mean of Mediocrity," when the most important part of the Big Duck

Factory, the BOP, is completely out of production eighty percent of the time, and the next most important part, the BCF, has got Gremlins in the Gears.



Part III of the Big Duck Factory includes Alaska and the Far North, and some of our Northern States. It is called the "Big Fish Factory" because it is famous for its production of Lake Trout, Grayling, and Arctic Char. It also produces a variety of aquatic sarpint known locally as the "Jack-fish", a reptile that often is referred to in the tourist folders as the "Great Northern Pike".

This BFF also turns out a unique group of aquatic organisms, having flat bills like the Jackfish, but whose scales are modified into feathers of sorts, and whose extra-large pectoral fins serve as wings whenever these creatures get up enough speed to become air-borne. Prominent among these flying-fish are the



DUCKS UNLIMITED

scoter, the whistler, and the butterball, and, if you go far enough North, the Be-spectacled Clamcracker whose scales make good sleeping bags, and a sub-species of mackerel known as the old-squaw. Also, in spots, there are bluebills and fair numbers of black-jacks (incorrectly referred to in the bird books as ringneck ducks). We have heard of guys bagging these last-named creatures in a rather sporting manner, employing a smooth-bore instead of hook and line.

Here and there in this BFF we hear tell of real Eatin' Ducks. The big River Deltas of the Far North and Alaska, and many spots in southern Canada and in our North and Central States (and the Deep South, thank you-suh), turn out fair numbers of the real choice species. But we add them all together, good, indifferent, and downright inedible, and we still ain't got much. By itself, the total production of the BFF, "Neighbor-Ducks" included, would never make a Super-Crop, and hardly ever a real shootable crop. But in years when both the BOP and the BCF go completely dry and out of production, this BFF could harbor enough refugees from the Prairie nesting grounds to keep these endangered species from winding up on the songbird list.

Rule no. 3. The BFF in normal times is important mainly because it produces the piece-de-resistance for the boys who prefer their fish with feathers on 'em. But when things get tough all over, and the Prairie ducks are hollering "Mayday", as they were during the Drought of the '30s, the BFF might be the *key to survival* so far as the Eatin' Ducks are concerned. And could carry them past the emergency in such numbers that they could take immediate advantage of subsequent more favorable conditions, and quickly regain their former place on the shootable list.

The Remedy for Mediocrity, and Why It Seldom Works

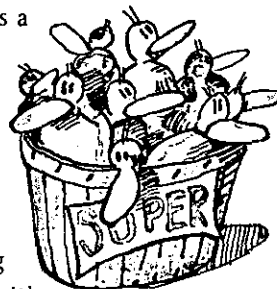
Let's re-hash what we have agreed upon to date...Most years, we have to be content with a pretty mediocre crop of ducks. Because the BOP of the Big Duck Factory, the part that could make all the difference, is shut down for alterations such as raising wheat or else there ain't enough water for its boilers. This throws the entire load onto the BCF and BFF of this Duck Factory and these two Branches just ain't got what it takes. These two Lesser Factories, working at their usual rate of output, simply cannot turn out an exceptional Duck Crop. They produce instead a very ordinary crop, one that may vary a bit from year to year, but is seldom bad, and hardly ever real good. It's the Sustaining Duck Crop.

Now and then both the BOP and the BCF go dry. When this happens, it's strictly *Mayday* for the game ducks. These Prairie birds hole up on the Bush, the Tundra, and anyplace else that is still on the damp side, cavort with the flying fish that are native to such places, and otherwise just hang on until the going gets better. The annual Duck Crop during this period adds up to No Crop a-Tall.

On rare occasions the BOP gets dripping wet, and goes into real production. When this happens, the adjoining BCF is

usually even wetter, and its production also shoots up. Their combined productivity gives us a Super-Crop that year, and gives the Duck Population a shot in the arm. A couple of years like this in a row, and Brother, we got ducks.

That's an amazing, but all too rare Escape from Mediocrity. But remember, it takes an unusual pattern of precipitation to get the BOP into high gear. Fall rains, *plus* heavy winter snowfall, plus quick spring thaw and runoff, plus ample spring and summer rains. This combination triggers production of the Super-Crop. But let one element, particularly spring rains, be missing from this detonating device, and we got a dud on our hands. Duck production in the BOP is a "Whole-hawg-or-none" proposition, especially in these days of full-bore agriculture. There was a time when a fairly wet spring might enable the early-nesting mallards and pins to breeze through a successful early nesting in the BOP and have their young on the wing before dry summer weather caught up with them. But this was before the advent of McCormick, Deering, and the International Harvester people. In this current enlightened era, a half-way wet spring will still encourage ducks to nest in this country, but also encourages the farmer to sabotage their first (and only possible) nesting attempt. It takes a helluva wet spring these days, wet to the point where it is Agriculture that is sabotaged, to set the BOP up for the Super-Crop of ducks.



Right here is the Beetle in the Brew. The BOP never stays in peak production more than two or three years in a row. In these two or three years, its output runs the population way up. Then the following year it folds, and stays out of production mebbe for the next five years. The other Branch Factories, by themselves, can't turn out enough replacements to maintain the high population, so we get one of these "Crash Declines" they tell about. ☞

With the benefit of hindsight, many would agree that Lynch has 'nailed it.' The truths about duck production in the 1950s still hold today. But with the advent of modern agricultural machinery and our capacity to change landscapes, land-use practices must change, as well as weather, for improved duck production. During these drier times when the BOP is out of production, we need to protect basins and uplands so we have viable wetlands and nesting cover when the rains return to the prairies.

Waterfowlers may be discouraged that a factor beyond our control—climate—dictates that management alone is a long way from producing a bumper crop every year. However, they can be optimistic that their dedication to developing quality habitats, even through dry cycles, can pay off when there is water on the BOP for a few years. Memories of past, and anticipation of future, bumper crops are the fuel that sustains waterfowl conservation.

—B.D.J.B.

BR. / opcieloans / LC

DRAFT

HUNTER PERMIT

Permit #	Louisiana Permit to Hunt Canada Geese	Cost: \$5.00
	January 23-31, 1991	Non-Refundable

This permit authorizes the person named below to hunt and possess Canada geese in accordance with State and Federal waterfowl regulations. This permit must be in possession of the person named below while hunting Canada Geese. This permit is required of all hunters regardless of age.

Name: _____ Telephone #: _____
Address: _____ Drivers License #: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____

RETURN CARD

Permit #	Canada Goose Harvest Information
----------	----------------------------------

The hunter must provide the following harvest information and return this self-addressed card by February 15, 1991. Failure to return this completed card, even if you did not hunt, will disqualify you from participation next year.

Circle dates when you hunted Canada geese: (enter 0 if you did not hunt) _____
 Jan. 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

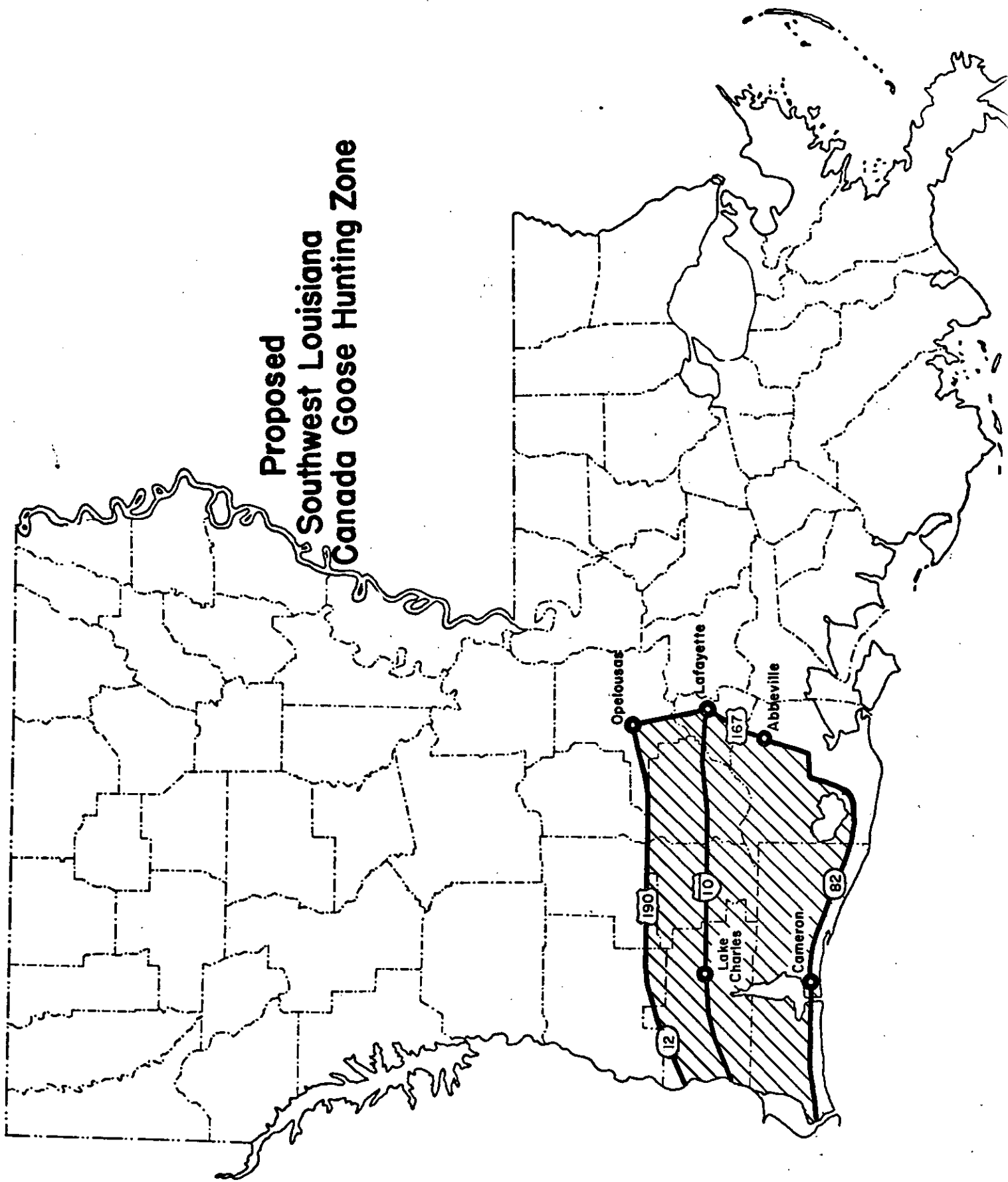
List name of the Parish(es) and nearest town where you hunted Canada geese:

1. _____
2. _____

Number of Canada geese bagged by you during this experimental season:_____

Name: _____ Telephone #: _____
Address: _____ Drivers License #: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____

**Proposed
Southwest Louisiana
Canada Goose Hunting Zone**



Recap of short fall:

432,604	Conservation - Rev est. less
2,080,303	than app
357,579	Rockefeller - Rev est. less
673,669	than app
	Cost of pay adj. not
	covered by G.F.
	G.F. cut (9.2m preamb.)
3,544,155	

32,028
200,000

513 - Exp. yr → 1991
Est. 513 oblig. fr 1990
to be pd in 1991

3,776,183

FW
GN
R
G
FIR
LE

Spent

Pool

Pool

1990	38,734,245	3,964,359	34,769,886
1989	40,526,025	6,373,016	34,153,009
1988	40,469,019	8,303,829	32,165,190

Recap of appropriation / Expenditures
fiscal yr 1990

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Exp/Enc</u>	<u>Free Budget</u>
Sec	17,915,720	16,339,408	1,076,312
WL	10,235,839	9,027,311	1,208,528
Fish	10,582,636	8,937,508	1,645,128
		<hr/> 34,804,227	

DEER SEASON ADVISORY GROUP

COMMISSION

Don Hines
Bert Jones

LEGISLATURE

Senate

Joe McPherson -- Dist. 29 -- Woodworth
Randy Ewing -- Dist. 35 -- Ruston

House

Rodney Alexander -- Dist. 13 -- Jonesboro
Charlie DeWitt -- Dist. 25 -- Lecompte

LANDOWNERS

Dick Shuford -- Landowners Against Deer Dogging -- Pleasant Hill
Cotton Fairchild -- Sunshine
Paul Dixon -- Shreveport
Sonny Gilbert -- Sicily Island
Mark Dupree -- Marksville
Bob Witte -- Zemurray Gardens -- Hammond *C. Webb Snyder*
Buck Vandersteen -- Exec. Dir., La. Forestry Assn. -- Alexandria

DOG HUNTERS

Randy Lanoux -- Pres., Southern La. Dog Hunters Assn. -- Ascension
Charles Womack -- Pres., La. Dog Hunters Assn. -- Shreveport
Warren King -- Pres., Hunters Against Poachers -- Gonzales
Mike Gaudet -- Secy., Hunters Against Poachers -- Prairieville
Danny Lazarus -- Past Pres., La. Dog Hunters Assn. -- Stonewall
Terry Melancon -- Prairieville

STILL HUNTERS

Gordon Hutchinson -- Pres., La. Still Hunters Assn. -- Baton Rouge
Jim Dunlop -- Pres., N. La. Still Hunters Assn. -- Bastrop
Rick Woodling -- Active DMAP cooperater -- Slidell
Arthur Seale -- Pres., La. Wildlife Association -- Shreveport
Larry Leger -- Pres., La. Wildlife Federation -- Baton Rouge
Jesse Fontenot -- Morgan City
Jay Lobrano -- Belle Chasse

- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of the hunter.
- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited area. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation.

CLOSED SEASON. No person shall take migratory game birds during the closed season.

SHOOTING OR HAWKING HOURS. No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to shooting and hawking as prescribed.

DAILY BAG LIMIT. No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT. No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, etc.

WANTON WASTE. All migratory birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved, if possible, and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.

TAGGING. No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

1. The hunter's signature.
2. The hunter's address.
3. The total number of birds involved, by species.
4. The dates such birds were killed.

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

POSSESSION OF LIVE BIRDS. Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

DRESSING. No person shall completely field dress any migratory game bird (except doves and banded pigeons) and then transport the bird from the field. The head or one fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to one's home or to a commercial preservation facility.

SHIPMENT. No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with:

- (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds,
- (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and
- (c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

IMPORTATION. For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66. One fully-feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between a port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds killed in a foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required above), drawn and the head and feet are removed. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING AND CONSERVATION STAMP (DUCK STAMP). The law requires that each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age and over must carry on his person a valid Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, or duck stamp signed in ink across the face. A valid State duck stamp is required in addition to the Federal duck stamp.

DUAL VIOLATION. Violation of State migratory bird regulations is also a violation of Federal regulations.

See State Goose Creeping Regulation, page 3.

CAUTION: More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on Federal regulations, contact the following U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Special Agents:

Slidell (504) 257-7550
Denham Springs (504) 389-0360
Lafayette (318) 264-6630
Lake Charles (318) 437-7214
Monroe (318) 325-1735

The rules and regulations contained within this digest have been officially approved and adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission under authority vested by Section 115 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 and are considered to be in full force and effect along with all applicable statutory laws.

This public document was published at a total cost of \$6,000.00. Two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) copies of this document were published in this first printing at a cost of \$6,000.00. The total cost of all printings of the document, including reprints is \$6,000.00. This document was published for the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Department, P. O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 by the Division of Administration, State Printing Office to inform the waterfowl hunters of the rules and regulations pertaining to the taking of waterfowl in Louisiana under authority of special exemption by Division of Administration. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by State agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31.

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Director
Office of Equal Opportunity
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Report violations toll free:
1-800-442-2511

“Conserve Game Birds—Use a Retriever”

LOUISIANA

Migratory

Game Bird Hunting Regulations 1989-90



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, La. 70898-9000

Virginia Van Sicker
Virginia Van Sicker, Secretary

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Donald Hines M.D. Chairman
Warren Pol. Vice-Chairman

Bert Jones
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Joe Palmisano

Norman McCall

Buddy Roemer, Governor



An Equal Opportunity Employer

HELP STOP POACHING
1-800-442-2511

Call Operation Game Thief's toll-free hotline any time of day or night. Remember, a poacher is stealing from you.

1989-90 HUNTING SEASONS
MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Shooting Hours: (See Exceptions—4 below)

1. Snipe and woodcock: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
2. Ducks (including coots, geese, rails and gallinules): ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.
3. Doves: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset EXCEPT Noon to sunset on Sept. 2-3, Oct. 14-15 and Dec. 9-10.
4. EXCEPTIONS: Waterfowl hunting until 2:00 p.m. on all wildlife management areas except Atchafalaya Delta, Biloxi, Bohemia, Pass-a-Loutre, and Wisner, which will be the same as outside, and except Joyce, Manchac, Pearl River, Pointe-au-Chien, and Salvador with morning waterfowl hunting until noon. Obtain separate pamphlet for Wildlife Management Areas schedule.

RAILS: Nov. 18-Jan. 20.

King and Clapper-daily bag 15 in the aggregate, possession 30.

Sora and Virginia-daily bag and possession limit 25 in the aggregate.

GALLINULES: Nov. 18-Jan. 20. Daily bag limit 15, possession 30.

SNIPE: Nov. 11-Feb. 25. Daily bag limit 8, possession 16.

WOODCOCK: Dec. 9-Feb. 11. Daily bag limit 5, possession 10.

DOVES: Split season, Statewide. Sept. 2-10, Oct. 14-Nov. 12 and Dec. 9-Jan. 8. Daily bag limit 12, possession 24.

State Wildlife Management Areas — All blinds and decoys must be removed within 30 minutes after the close of shooting hours each day on all wildlife management areas. Unattended decoys will be confiscated, forfeited to, and disposed of by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

DUCKS AND COOTS: (CLOSED SEASON ON CANVASBACK)

The State of Louisiana is divided into a west zone and an east zone (see map and description).

West Zone: (30 days) Nov. 18-Dec. 4 and Dec. 26-Jan. 7.

East Zone: (30 days) Nov. 18-Nov. 23 and Dec. 15-Jan. 7.

Daily Bag Limits
The daily bag limit on ducks is 3 and may include no more than 2 mallards (no more than 1 of which may be a female), 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 1 pintail and 1 redhead. Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Mergansers - The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit—The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

GEESSE: (Closed Season on Canada Geese) STATEWIDE SEASON

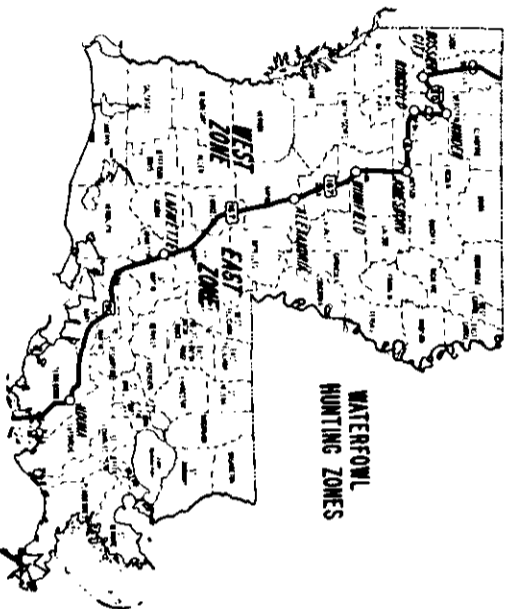
Nov. 18-Dec. 4, Dec. 15-Feb. 5 and Feb. 6-Feb. 14.

Daily bag limit is 7 in the aggregate of blue, snow and white-fronted geese of which not more than 2 may be white-fronted (specklebellies). During the last 9 days (Feb. 6-Feb. 14), only blue and snow geese may be taken. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

GOOSE CREEPING

"It shall be unlawful for approach geese by creeping, crawling, or stalking for the purpose of taking geese or thereafter causing geese to be taken. 'Take' means, in its different tenses, the attempt or act of hooking, pursuing, netting, capturing, snaring, trapping, shooting, hunting, wounding or killing by any means or device."

ATTENTION: All waterfowl hunters are required to have in their possession a valid **STATE DUCK STAMP**, signed across the face in INK, in addition to the Federal Duck Stamp to hunt ducks, coots and geese.



Waterfowl Hunting Zones

Beginning at the Arkansas-Louisiana border on La. 3; thence south along La. 3 to Bossier City; thence east along I-20 to Minden; thence south along La. 7 to Ringgold; thence east along La. 4 to Jonesboro; thence south along U.S. 167 to Lafayette; thence southeast along U.S. 90 to Houma; thence south along the Houma Navigation Canal to the Gulf of Mexico through Cat Island Pass.

Shooting Hours For Ducks, Geese, Coots, Rails and Gallinules:

½ hour before Sunrise to Sunset
SUNRISE AND SUNSET—NEW ORLEANS AREA
Central Standard Time (Add one hour when on Daylight Saving Time)

DAY	SEPT.		OCT.		NOV.		DEC.	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
1	5:37	6:23	5:53	5:46	6:14	5:14	6:38	5:00
2	5:37	6:22	5:53	5:45	6:15	5:13	6:39	5:00
3	5:38	6:22	5:55	5:45	6:15	5:12	6:40	5:00
4	5:38	6:21	5:55	5:44	6:15	5:11	6:41	5:00
5	5:39	6:19	5:56	5:42	6:17	5:10	6:41	5:00
6	5:40	6:17	5:56	5:40	6:17	5:10	6:42	5:00
7	5:40	6:16	5:58	5:38	6:18	5:09	6:42	5:00
8	5:41	6:13	5:58	5:37	6:19	5:08	6:44	5:01
9	5:42	6:12	5:59	5:35	6:21	5:07	6:45	5:01
10	5:42	6:11	5:59	5:34	6:22	5:07	6:46	5:01
11	5:43	6:10	6:00	5:33	6:23	5:06	6:46	5:01
12	5:43	6:08	6:01	5:32	6:23	5:05	6:47	5:02
13	5:44	6:07	6:01	5:31	6:24	5:05	6:48	5:02
14	5:45	6:06	6:02	5:30	6:25	5:04	6:49	5:03
15	5:45	6:05	6:03	5:29	6:25	5:04	6:49	5:03
16	5:46	6:03	6:04	5:28	6:27	5:04	6:50	5:03
17	5:46	6:02	6:04	5:27	6:28	5:03	6:50	5:04
18	5:47	6:01	6:05	5:26	6:28	5:03	6:51	5:04
19	5:47	6:00	6:05	5:25	6:28	5:02	6:51	5:04
20	5:48	5:59	6:06	5:24	6:30	5:02	6:52	5:05
21	5:48	5:57	6:07	5:23	6:31	5:02	6:52	5:05
22	5:49	5:56	6:07	5:22	6:32	5:01	6:53	5:06
23	5:49	5:55	6:08	5:21	6:33	5:01	6:53	5:06
24	5:50	5:53	6:09	5:20	6:34	5:01	6:54	5:08
25	5:51	5:51	6:10	5:18	6:35	5:01	6:55	5:09
26	5:51	5:51	6:11	5:17	6:36	5:00	6:55	5:10
27	5:52	5:50	6:12	5:16	6:37	5:00	6:56	5:11
28	5:52	5:49	6:13	5:14				
29	5:53	5:47						
30								
31								

SUNRISE AND SUNSET CONVERSION TABLE FOR OTHER AREAS

For the other areas listed, add the number of minutes shown in the monthly table below to the daily figures given in the New Orleans Area table above. This will furnish central standard time sunrise and sunset figures for any particular day in these areas.

Months	Atchafalaya		Baton Rouge		Lafayette		Lake Charles		Monroe		Shreveport	
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
Sept.	+ 9	+ 11	+ 4	+ 5	+ 8	+ 8	+ 12	+ 13	+ 6	+ 7	+ 13	+ 14
Oct.	+ 11	+ 10	+ 5	+ 4	+ 8	+ 7	+ 13	+ 12	+ 7	+ 6	+ 14	+ 13
Nov.	+ 12	+ 9	+ 5	+ 3	+ 8	+ 7	+ 13	+ 12	+ 7	+ 5	+ 15	+ 12
Dec.	+ 13	+ 8	+ 5	+ 3	+ 8	+ 7	+ 13	+ 12	+ 7	+ 4	+ 16	+ 11
Jan.	+ 10	+ 7	+ 4	+ 4	+ 7	+ 8	+ 12	+ 12	+ 6	+ 3	+ 15	+ 14
Feb.	+ 10	+ 9	+ 4	+ 4	+ 7	+ 8	+ 12	+ 12	+ 6	+ 2	+ 14	+ 14
Mar.	+ 10	+ 11	+ 4	+ 5	+ 8	+ 8	+ 12	+ 12	+ 6	+ 1	+ 14	+ 16
Apr.	+ 8	+ 12	+ 3	+ 5	+ 7	+ 8	+ 12	+ 12	+ 5	+ 11	+ 11	+ 19

**SUMMARY OF
FEDERAL REGULATIONS**

In addition to State regulations, the following Federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting, and storing of migratory game birds. **NOTICE**—The material below is only a summary; each hunter should also consult the actual Federal regulations, which may be found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.

STEEL SHOT ZONES

No person shall take ducks, coots or geese while possessing shot other than steel shot in the following parishes:

Acadia	*Grant
Assumption	*Iberia
Avoailles	*Jefferson
*Bienville	*Jeff. Davis
Boeazer	*Lafourche
Caddo	*LaSalle
Calcasieu	*Morehouse
Caldwell	*Natchitoches
*Cameron	*Orleans
*Catahoula	*Ouachita
*Concordia	*Plaquemines
*Evangeline	*Rapides
*Franklin	*Red River
	*St. Landry
	*St. Martin
	*St. Mary
	*St. Tammany
	*Terrebonne
	*Union
	*Vermillion

*Steel shot will be required for the first time in these parishes.

RESTRICTIONS. No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- From a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water.)
- From or with the aid of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body which involves both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.
- From or by means of any motor boat or sail boat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.

Draft

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
AUGUST 9-10, 1990

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Thursday, August 9, 1990

Houston Foret
Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Secretary Van Sickle was not present. Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis presided in her place.

Friday, August 10, 1990

Houston Foret
Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Secretary Van Sickle was not present. Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis presided in her place.

Chairman Pol introduced Mr. Houston Foret, the newest Governor's appointee to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Mr. Foret replaced Mr. Joe Palmisano and is from Cocodrie, Louisiana.

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to accept the **Minutes of the July 5-6, 1990 Commission Meeting**. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting a **Status Report on Cooperative Effort with Texas Parks and Wildlife to Reintroduce Attwater Prairie Chickens to Southwest Louisiana** was given by Mr. Bob Murphy of the Texas Park and Wildlife and Mr. Gary Lester of the Louisiana Department Wildlife and Fisheries. Mr. Lester, Coordinator of the Natural Heritage Program addressed the Commission. Mr. Lester reported that the Attwater prairie chicken historically was in Louisiana west of the Bayou Teche River where the coastal prairie existed. Originally there was 2.5 million acres of prairie and now with most of the prairie gone some of the species associated with it are also gone. In the early 1900s' it was estimated that there were about 1 million prairie chickens in Louisiana and east Texas. In February of 1919 the last prairie chicken in Louisiana was

collected 14 miles south of Vinton, Louisiana. In 1967 the species was listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as endangered and there are no longer any prairie chickens in Louisiana but Texas still has a few. In 8 counties, the 1990 census this year showed that there were 470 prairie chickens left in Texas. Mr. Lester advised the Commission that the proposed project is roughly reintroducing the prairie chicken into southwest Louisiana. The department will be involved in terms of finding suitable sights in southwest Louisiana where the birds can survive, and setting up management agreements with owners of the private lands that agree to be involved in this project. The funding of this project will be Section 6 and a Section 6 agreement was just signed in June. This is an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that is part of the Federal Endangered Species Act which allows up to 90 percent federal funding for projects that more than one state is involved with. At this point Mr. Lester introduced Mr. Bob Murphy from Texas, Chief of the Endangered Resources Branch and asked him to address the Commission. Mr. Murphy thanked the members of the Commission for the invitation to address the meeting and reported that they have been working on this particular project. This will be Texas' third request for federal funding and have actually completed almost one year of work on the project. This is a two phase project; first phase involved working with Texas A&M University to develop propagation methods to try and breed individuals for the species in a captive manner that will still be re-introducible into the wild. As of now there are no results on this but are optimistic that there will be quite a large number of individuals for re-introduction efforts in the next year or two. In Texas the other part of the project has been to work with private landowners to manage the habitats that they have that either now contain individuals of the species or that have been identified as having potential to sustain re-introduced populations. This is being done through a series of agreements/leases that actually reimburse the landowners for the management procedures that they need to go through. This included grazing reductions and brush control. Dr. Nova Silvey at Texas A&M University is heading the propagation efforts and staff in the Wildlife Division of the Texas Parks and Wildlife have been working cooperatively with the landowners. Texas is looking forward to working with Louisiana on this project and others and are now in the process of drafting the cooperative agreement that is necessary between the two states to receive the 90 percent federal match. This document should be forwarded to the Fish and Wildlife Service for their review in the next couple of weeks concluded Mr. Murphy and asked for questions.

Mr. Jones questioned Mr. Murphy on what was the assurance that re-introduction of the prairie chicken will not introduce disease to the quail which are on the decline in the state of Louisiana and the wild turkey. Mr. Murphy advised that this was a major consideration in the design of the propagation experiments. Instead of being bred in pens the birds will be bred in a very large enclosure (acres) actually simulating a natural condition in the propagation techniques. The habitat is a large enough

enclosure to insure that the birds that are prorogated are retrievable. Mr. Jones stated that he has concerns that artificial or human feeding to upland game birds introduce some poultry diseases and would like to have reassurance that these concerns will be answered before a losing battle starts, not only on the prairie chicken but one that would introduce disease to other upland game birds that are somewhat on the decline in the area. Mr. Murphy stated that they share these same concerns but he cannot personally reassure Mr. Jones because he is not that familiar with this problem and that Dr. Silvey is the expert on prairie chickens. Dr. Silvey is working with the Fish and Wildlife Service in Texas on a refuge to assure that any prorogation techniques would be the best possible in that regard. *pa*

Chairman Pol called for further questions, there being none he thanked Mr. Murphy and Mr. Lester for their presentation.

At Thursday's meeting Chairman Pol introduced Mr. Gary Salmon from Lafayette, present State Chairman of Ducks Unlimited. Mr. Salmon addressed the Commission and informed them that Ducks Unlimited in Canada proudly dedicated another marsh in connection with the monies that the Commissioners in the state of Louisiana have graciously dedicated to the preservation of waterfowl habitat. As State Chairman of Ducks Unlimited in Louisiana he was asked by the national office to come to this meeting and make a presentation. The state of Louisiana has been responsible over the history of Ducks Unlimited for 4.4 million dollars worth of contributions that have gone into projects in Canada. *b* Basically in the flyways that benefit the state of Louisiana. Mr. Salmon presented a small memento to each Commissioner in appreciation for their 1990 support of Ducks Unlimited Range Slough Project in Saskatchewan and thanked them very much for their help. Mr. McInnis displayed a book that gives a history of the Range Slough Project and stated that those who were interested he would urge them to take a few minutes to look at the book. It gives a good idea as to what took place in Canada and where the money is going. Mr. McInnis and Mr. Bateman from the department did have the opportunity to go to the dedication. *e*

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Hugh Bateman presented the **Dates for Migratory Seasons Including Waterfowl** to the Commission along with two emergency declarations on the seasons.

Mr. Bateman stated that there will be 2 or 3 items of information on this topic and presented the information on the ~~wobblers~~ migratory birds seasons that the Commission set back in July. The federal framework has been received on these seasons and the Commission can enact an emergency rule to be placed in the State Register so that these seasons can be set in place advised Mr. Bateman. Mr. Bateman then presented a resolution and a declaration of emergency to the Commission on the ~~wobblers~~ migratory bird seasons for action. *webless*

~~webless~~
webless

Dr. Hines made a motion that the resolution including the emergency declaration be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting at Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier, LA, August 9, 1990.

WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing upland migratory season framework have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for upland migratory species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for upland migratory species within the constraints of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning September 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 24, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these dates will be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulations set for Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the emergency declaration is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the Emergency provision of R.S. 49:953 (B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The hunting seasons for ~~webbles~~ migratory birds during the 1990-91 hunting season shall be as follows:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Dove: Split Season, Statewide
Sept. 1-9
Oct. 13 - Nov. 11
Dec. 8 - Jan. 7

Daily bag limit 12, Possession 24

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except on the opening weekend of each split (Sept. 1-2, Oct. 13-14 and Dec. 8-9) when shooting hours will be 12:00 Noon to sunset.

Rail: Nov. 17 - Jan. 20
King and Clapper - daily bag 15 in the aggregate, possession 30. Sora and Virginia - daily bag and possession limit 25 in the aggregate.

Gallinule: Nov. 17 - Jan. 20 - daily bag limit 15, possession 30.

Snipe: Nov. 10 - Feb. 24 - daily bag limit 8, possession 16.

Woodcock: Dec. 1. - Feb. 3 - daily bag limit 5, possession 10.

Shooting hours for rail, gallinule, snipe and woodcock are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services establishes the framework for all migratory species. In order for Louisiana to provide hunting opportunities

to the 200,000 sportsmen, selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours must be established and presented to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by August 9, 1990.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will become effective on September 1, 1990 and extend through sunset on February 24, 1991.

Warren Pol
Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Bateman asked Mr. Robert Helm, Waterfowl Biologist for the department, to give a status report and background information on last year's duck season and this year's season.

Mr. Helm presented a slide presentation along with the status report and informed those attending that he has available a 20 minute video prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on this same information that does a better job than slides. The video can be viewed this evening or in the next few weeks if anyone is interested advised Mr. Helm. Mr. Helm reported that geographically the colored area pointed out in the slides is the principle Canadian breeding area of ducks in winter which is the Prairie Pothole Region and includes portions in North and South Dakota, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. This is a 300,000 square mile area and has up to 100 potholes per square mile. Historically this area was able to produce a tremendous amount of ducks when water conditions improved after an extended drought, however, in the more recent past, man has altered the habitat to such a degree that the birds are not able to respond as quickly as they have in the past thus causing the problem of reducing nesting cover available to ducks to a very narrow band and allowing predators easy access to nesting ~~lands~~. Nesting success rates of some of the mallards are at 10 percent success or even less. There were two surveys conducted this year, the first in May continuing into June and the second survey begins in July. The May survey is the breeding population survey where an index is developed as to the number of ducks that are available to breed. The July survey is the duck production where an estimated number of ducks is developed that will be migrating South. In association with each of these surveys a count is done on the number of water bodies or ponds available. During the winter flyway meetings this year the gloom and doom that Mr. Helm and Mr. Bateman have become accustomed to hearing was once again apparent and the outlook for this year looked awful stated Mr. Helm. Precipitation (snowfall) was much reduced this past winter, late winter was extremely mild and the soil moisture was way down explained Mr. Helm. However, beginning of March and continuing on through the remainder of the year, conditions have improved very dramatically. In May in Prairie Canada the number of ponds available was up over 60 percent; however in the northcentral U.S. not much rain was received in April and May and the count there was down 46 percent from the preceding year. In association with the May survey the breeding pair count is done and

the number of breeding mallards was down 4 percent from the previous year and way down from the long term, 27 percent; pintails continue to suffer but improved slightly this year for the first time in several years but still way below the long term. The total number of ducks is very similar to last year and up only one percent. Some species are: gadwall up over the average of 16 percent; green-winged teal almost 40 percent above the average; spoonbill is down 4 percent for the long term; blue-winged teal are way down, 40 percent down from the long term average and reached a record low breeding population this year. Good water conditions persisted on through July and conditions in the north central improved also. Compared to last year in July this July water is primarily an indication of the habitat available to hens and their young. In Prairie Canada the water areas in July were up almost 40 percent and in the U.S. northcentral they were only down 9 percent from last year. With the added rainfall during the summer, even though it may have not improved the actual wetland area it did restore some of the subsoil moisture and it also encouraged lush growth of the vegetation. Both of these are the necessary first steps of improved conditions for following years and this may be a preliminary indication of better habitat next year particularly combined with a normal precipitation between now and next year advised Mr. Helm. The estimated number of ducks to migrate south this year in all four of the flyways is 64 million and is very comparable to the preceding years. Mr. Helm stated that in his opinion this is a conservative estimate by the Fish and Wildlife Service and believes a lot of birds will be brought off late this year that were not available for the survey.

Dr. Hines asked Mr. Helm if the 1989 estimate figure was not also a little conservative. Mr. Helm agreed that it was. The predicated production rate last year was .8 and after looking at the results of the wing survey the production was brought up to 1.1. The fall flight last year was high then predicted and Mr. Helm believes that the same thing will occur again.

A 100,000,000 birds is the long term goal for the fall flight but that is a long off and has basically remained unchanged in 3 years stated Mr. Helm.

Mr. Helm reported that the geese are doing very well. The primary factors affecting goose production is when the ice and snow disappears and this year it was a little late but most of the geese produced below that fall line this year, Hudson Bay. Snow geese, blues and speckled bellies did relatively well and Louisiana is expecting a similar number of geese as last year which were near record high levels last winter.

The harvest in the flyway last year was up 32 percent total ducks with duck stamp sales going up only slightly. In Louisiana the harvest increased over 50 percent last year while the number of hunters fell 2 percent. Last year there were ideal conditions for hunting ducks in Louisiana stated Mr. Helm. These conditions included good habitat while the rest of the flyway was dry; more

ducks than predicted; and the hard freeze which forced all the ducks south.

Other information that Mr. Helm provided the Commission was that this was the fourth year of a five year phase-in for steel shot regulations and 8 parishes will be affected this year and 18 next year when the whole state will be steel shot.

Chairman Pol asked if anyone would like to ask any questions on Mr. Helm's presentation. Dr. Hines asked why the blue-winged teal was down so much and all the other ducks were up? Mr. Helm stated that blue-winged, pintail and mallard are all significantly below the long term. Blue-winged and pintail particularly like to nest in a short grass prairie country, such as southern Alberta and southern portions of Saskatchewan, which have suffered the most in the past 10 years because of the drought. There is just no area for the birds to nest in and the pintail and blue-winged are less adaptable to other areas. A green-winged will nest right adjacent to a blue-winged but they will move from the dry area in the south to the bush country in the north whereas the blue-winged and pintail are not like to do this advised Mr. Helm.

Mr. Bateman commented that what Mr. Helm just described is one of the most interesting biological situations with blue-winged. There are a lot of people quick to say that the illegal harvest of birds is causing these declines but the people in the scientific community that are looking at what is happening to wetlands and the nesting areas understand that this is where the difficulty is, the hibernation rate and the fact that there is no recruitment. The pintails and blue-winged are two species of these birds that nest in the area that has been damaged by man's influence. With the ~~sensation~~ of blue-winged teal season and with the fact that blue-winged ~~comes through early and~~ about 80-85 percent of the legal harvest of blue-winged have been removed ~~from any~~ factor in determining what those populations will be. Any legal harvest on these birds for the most part now occurs south of the U.S. in Mexico, Central America and South America. ~~With this declining population in spite of the fact that in North America 80 percent of the hunting mortality has been removed, this adds to the belief that the deterioration of the habitat and lack of recruitment is what is causing the problem commented Mr. Bateman.~~

Mr. Bateman informed the Commission that he has taken the position that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is being conservative and believes that they are doing this to try and hold on to the very conservative regulations. Once the drought is broken, which there is a good start this year, Mr. Bateman believes the Service will loosen up but there is no way that he can predict when this will happen.

At this time Mr. Bateman presented the framework and regulations that were received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Mississippi Flyway this year includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan,

teal pass through
Cal. before the
regular season
Cessation

Handy removing hunting as a major
Because the population
continue to decline
Supports

all states will

Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio Tennessee and Wisconsin and ~~will all~~ have the same framework opportunities in regard to hunting ducks. The hunting seasons will be not more than 30 days. The outside dates (framework dates) for hunting will be October 6 on the front end and January 6 on the back end. Interestingly enough the framework is tending to work against the south and in favor of the north as the ending framework dates have gone from January 8 two years ago when going to the restrictive 30 season and was moved back to January 7 last year and now January 6 this year pointed out Mr. Bateman. However, on the front end of this framework for states in the north that like to open their season very early it started out on October 8 three years ago, went to October 7 last year, and will be October 6 this year. The states are trying to get the Fish and Wildlife Service to remove framework as a consideration for regulating duck harvest and strictly deal with season length and bag limit advised Mr. Bateman. By doing this the states will know what the dates will be from year to year and then let people set their hunting season dates within the time frame that they want to hunt. The ducks limits this year offer two options. The conventional bag limit will be 3 ducks, no more than 2 mallards (only 1 of which may be a female), 1 black duck, 1 pintail, 2 wood ducks and 1 redhead. Possession limit will be twice the daily bag limit. As an alternate to the conventional bag limit ~~per~~ ducks this year a point system is once again offered and possession limit would be twice the daily bag limit. There would be three point categories. One hundred point birds would be female mallards, pintails, black ducks, redheads and hooded merganser; 50 point birds would be male mallards and wood ducks; 35 point birds would be all other ducks and mergansers. Canvasback season under either option would remain closed and merganser bag limits under the conventional bag limits would be 5 a day only 1 of which could be a hooded merganser. The coot bag limit would remain the same at 15 and 30. Mr. Bateman added that the zones and split season options are still intact and no problems with this and essentially what the Commission just heard was a no change from last year.

Chairman Pol pointed out that the point system is being offered this year which was taken away last year.

Mr. Bateman explained that the point system has always been an option that the states could use up until 1988 at which time it was taken out but last year it was an option. Interestingly enough the point system was offered in such a fashion last year, and in fact again this year, that it offers no incentive at all to take advised Mr. Bateman. The point system is exactly the same as the conventional bag limit and there are more penalties involved. This is not fair because the whole point system concept was based on the fact that you would have high point values on one end of the point scale and low point values on the other end to counter balance but what the Service chose to stick with was the penalties on the high side and they offer no incentive on the low side explained Mr. Bateman. This problem has been pointed out to the Service and the states hope this will be worked out.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Bateman where do the coots nest. Mr. Bateman answered that they nest right along side of the ducks. Mr. Jenkins asked how the coots got this far south as it seems they cannot fly for very far distances at long times. Mr. Bateman answered that he has marveled at this for 25 years and is a modern miracle from when they nest to get this far south. The Canadians have great respect for the coots. Apparently the coot is a stronger flier than it is given credit, it does not fly that high off the ground but it can cover pretty long distances as evidence that it end up down here stated Mr. Bateman. Mr. Jones asked about the coot populations. Mr. Helm advised that they were also suffering.

Mr. Bateman then presented the recommended dates for the upcoming duck season and asked if the Commissioners had any questions. Dr. Hines asked the date of Thanksgiving. Mr. Bateman stated that it is November 22 which has been included along with Christmas Day. Dr. Hines stated that he would like to review these dates overnight. Chairman Pol pointed out that the only change made from last year was to move a date back to December 27 in the West Zone to allow people that go out of town for the holidays to get back home and still get in the marsh to go hunting on the 27th. Mr. Jones stated that there have been complaints on the East Zone. The Commissioners will review the dates on the duck season and action will be taken at Friday's meeting.

Mr. Helm presented the goose season to the Commissioners. The goose seasons dates are highly dependent on the duck season dates pointed out Mr. Helm. Goose seasons use to be real simple in Louisiana, however, sno geese have been doing so well that they are literally eating themselves out of house and home in their breeding areas and the Fish and Wildlife Service gave 10 extra days of hunting last year and also increased the bag limit by 2 commented Mr. Helm. A person can now take 7 sno geese a day and there are 80 days of hunting. There is only a 70 day white-fronted speckled season. For the first time in 30 years there is a 9 day Canada goose season. Mr. Helm advised that there has not been a Canada goose season in Louisiana since 1962. Prior to the 1940s Louisiana would winter in excess of 100,000 Canada geese. Through a lot of things such as short stopping, changes in land use in the mid-west, the number fell off and through the 60s' and 70' there was just about 1,000 Canada geese primarily in southwest Louisiana. By the early 1980s' the numbers began to increase and it was found out that these Canada geese were directly associated with the white-front geese. Ground surveys were started in 1985 and Louisiana has 5 years of information from these surveys. There are 6 ground crews that do a survey in conjunction with one another involving state, private and also federal personnel. It was found that peak populations ranged form 12,000 to 30,000 with 30,000 for the last two years. The Canada geese are also late migrators peaking in early February whereas white-fronts and sno geese are peaking in late November and December. It is believed that the Canada geese are coming from southeast Texas as the rice base acreage there has fallen off. The status is adequate of Canada geese in Louisiana to provide a very limited hunting season and to

elevate this Canada goose in Louisiana is somewhat of a trophy waterfowl species stated Mr. Helm. The season would be 9 days from January 23, to January 31 which is the latest the season run in the Mississippi Flyway. Late January was chosen because this is when the birds are peaking. Louisiana's original proposal to the Fish and Wildlife Service was for a statewide season and they balked at this feeling like a better control of the harvest was needed which could not be done with a statewide season advised Mr. Helm and limited the hunting to an area in southwest Louisiana involving 9 parishes. There would be one Canada goose a day in the bag (tied in with the white-fronted season) and one white-front or two white-fronts. The start of the season, January 23, is a Wednesday with only one weekend involved. This was designed to be as restrictive in nature as it is. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife wanted Louisiana to develop a method to monitor the harvest advised Mr. Helm. In response the department has developed a permit which should be attached to a map and the way it will work is that there will be a \$5.00 permit that will be required by each person to hunt Canada geese during that 9 day period. This permit has to be in possession of the person while they are hunting and is required of all hunters regardless of age. The cost is an Administrative fee and should not be considered a licensing increase. The bottom portion of the permit is the harvest information which will give the department a handle on how many geese were taken and how many hunters participated. Failure to return this information back to the department will result in that person being disqualified from the hunt the following year.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Helm what he thought the reason was that the Service did not include northeast Louisiana in a Canada geese season as there is a good population in that area also. Mr. Helm advised that they just want a tighter lid on it and Louisiana has also got Canada geese in central Louisiana. Mr. Jones stated that there are a lot of birds in northeast Louisiana, more than he has seen since he has been hunting in the early 60s'. Mr. Helm commented that those that have been involved in the survey (work also in that area. There is a man from the Alexandria office that looks at Avoyelles, Rapides and somebody in Monroe that looks at Morehouse. They occasionally see Canada geese but nowhere the numbers that are in the southwest consistently. The state wanted to provide the opportunity of a Canada geese season statewide but the Service wanted it in a tight little box. This will be 3 year experimental season. The department will get the administrative fee and will cover the cost of the program. The permits will be available from either the Baton Rouge, Lake Charles or Opelousas office or through the mail from these offices. Mr. Jones asked how the Canada geese were doing nationwide. Mr. Helm stated that they are doing incredibly well. The Mississippi Valley population goal is a million and this year the harvest they are trying to obtain is a million. In the Eastern Flyway there are some problems with some of the flocks of the Canada geese. The birds that Louisiana is getting are a small Canada geese, 4-5 pound bird. Louisiana use to get a much larger bird. This bird is normally associated with the Central Flyway and not the Mississippi advised Mr. Helm. Dr.

Hines asked if there were any states in the Mississippi or Central Flyways that have a 3 split season rather than a 2 split? Mr. Helms answered yes they are but they do not have zones. You can 3 splits on no zones ~~and does not know~~ if that option is available to Louisiana. Dr. Hines suggested that it might be worthwhile to look into the possibility of having a 3 split season statewide for next year. This would give people more opportunity to hunt on the weekends.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Bateman reported that the status of waterfowl was discussed at Thursday's meeting and the Commission was provided with a couple of options to look at with the understanding that they could be modified as the Board would like in terms of setting the season dates. Mr. Bateman advised that there is a declaration of emergency, much like the two that the Commission had just heard, which is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will establish the framework for all migratory birds species and in order to provide hunting opportunities for Louisiana's 65,000-70,000 waterfowl hunters it must make its selection of these season dates, bag limits, shooting hours prior to September 1 and obviously the Commission will not meet until after that date unless a special meeting was called. This information will be presented for inclusion in the Federal Regulations stated Mr. Bateman and asked the Commission to select season dates for ducks, geese and coots.

At this point in the meeting Chairman Pol asked Mr. Bateman to give the options for the migratory bird season. Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the dates for the West Zone. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the Commission accept the first alternative which is November 17 through December 5 and December 27 through January 6 on the West Zone. Mr. McCall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the dates for the East Zone. A motion was made by Mr. Jones that the East Zone opens on November 17 through November 25 and second split opening December 17 through January 6. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins Dr. Hines commented on the dates in relation to other seasons. Mr. Jones advised that he has had a lot of hunters from his area have requested that they have the Thanksgiving holidays and realizes it is a sacrifice situation but feels like in his mind that they would rather have that weekend and then open the season on a Monday than not to have that weekend. Chairman Pol called for further discussion, there being no he called for the question. The motion passed with Dr. Hines opposing.

Mr. Bateman proceeded to give the dates for the goose season. Dr. Hines asked if there was any flexibility on the Canadian Goose season. Mr. Bateman answered no, that the details of this season have already been negotiated as conservatively as they could with the Fish and Wildlife Service and they arrived on both particular dates which are in fact published in the federal guidelines. In future year there is going to have to be some flexibility to move these date stated Mr. Bateman and asked Mr. Helm if he knew of any

flexibility. Mr. Helm advised that in the package printed from the Washington office those dates are specified. Dr. Hines stated that it is going to be an enforcement nightmare when in the West Zone duck hunting closes on December 5, goose hunting either closes on the 8th or 9th of December then it reopens on the 15 and duck hunting doesn't open until December 17 in the East Zone and does not see how all this can be enforced. Mr. Bateman commented that they have always had this to some degree because of the way the state was zoned for duck hunting and the fact there was always 55 days of duck hunting or 45 days of duck hunting or 30 days of duck hunting and never have had 70 or 80 days of duck hunting. Chairman Pol stated that nothing could be done about it this year but possibly next year during the negotiating stage with the feds maybe a better time can be gotten. Chairman Pol called for a motion on the goose season. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the goose season, as read by Mr. Bateman, be accepted. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

The resolution and emergency declaration was presented by Mr. Bateman for the setting of the migratory bird season. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that this be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting at Rockefeller Refuge in Grand Chenier, LA, August 10, 1990.

- WHEREAS, Hugh A. Bateman, Administrator of the Game Division, has attended public hearings in Washington, D.C. on upland migratory birds and waterfowl, and
- WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and
- WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing migratory waterfowl season framework have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for migratory waterfowl species including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and
- WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for migratory waterfowl species within the

constraints of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours by Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Declaration of Emergency will be in effect beginning November 1, 1990 and extends through sunset February 28, 1991, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these dates will be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulation set for Louisiana's 1990-91 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the declaration of emergency is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the Emergency provision of R.S. 49:953 (B) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following Emergency Rule:

The hunting seasons for ducks, coots, and geese during the 1990-91 hunting season shall be as follows:

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Ducks and Coots (Closed Season on Canvasbacks)

West Zone: November 17 - December 5
 December 27 - January 6

East Zone: November 17 - November 25
 December 17 - January 6

Daily Bag Limit: The daily bag limit on ducks is 3 and may include no more than 2 mallards

(no more than 1 of which may be a female), 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 1 pintail and 1 redhead. Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Merganser: The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit: The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

Geese: **Statewide**

November 17 - December 8
December 15 - January 31
February 1 - 10

Daily Bag Limit: Daily bag limit is 7 in the aggregate of blue, snow and white-fronted geese of which not more than 2 may be white-fronted (specklebellies) except as noted below. During the last 10 days (February - February), only blue and snow geese may be taken. During the Experimental Canada Goose Season (January 23-January 31) the daily bag limit for Canada and white-fronted geese is 2, of which not more than 1 can be a Canada goose. Possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

Experimental Canada Goose Season - January 23-31 (NEW)

An experimental Canada goose season will be open in a portion of southwest Louisiana. The area shall be described as follows:

South of Hwy. 12 from Texas line to Ragley; then south of Hwy. 190 to Opelousas; west of I-49 to Lafayette; west of Hwy 167 to Abbeville; west and north of Hwy. 82 to the Texas line.

A special permit shall be required to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season. A permit is required of everyone, regardless of age, and a non-refundable \$5.00 administrative fee will be charged. This permit may be obtained from the Lake Charles, Opelousas and Baton Rouge Offices.

Return of harvest information requested on permit is mandatory. Failure to submit this information to the

Department by February 15, 1991 will result in the hunter not being allowed to participate in the Experimental Canada Goose Season the following year.

Shooting Hours: Shooting hours for ducks, coots and geese are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service establishes the framework for all migratory waterfowl species. In order to provide hunting opportunity for the 65,000 waterfowl hunters, Louisiana must make its selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours prior to September 1, 1990 and present this information for inclusion in the federal regulations.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will be in effect by Emergency Rule for 120 days beginning November 1, 1990 and extend through February 28, 1991.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

The Alligator Quotas were discussed by Mr. James Manning at Thursday's meeting. Mr. Manning reported that at the last Commission meeting the emergency rule was passed to establish the alligator seasons for this year for wild harvest and also set in motion procedures to establish a set of rules and regulations to be promulgated through the Administrative Procedure Act. The season begins September 1 and goes through September 30, 1990. At the time the Commission was establishing the season department personnel were making their annual surveys throughout coastal Louisiana and getting information from the northern areas of the state to establish a quota system. The nest counts were compiled and taken through the formula. Nesting this year was very similar to last year with a slight increase. Calculations were made and in with the calculations the department ~~are~~ in the process of shifting to the new vegetative type maps that will be published in the near future. The tag quotas have been approved by the Secretary and are the same as last year stated Mr. Manning. At this point in the meeting Mr. Manning gave the Commissioners a brief summary of what went on last year and what is going on this year on the quotas. Last year there were 1,756 alligator hunters and approximately 26,068 tags for the wild were issued. This is what the department is looking at this year. The tag allotment will vary as people apply for tags. The prices for hides this year are very similar to last years. They averaged \$50 a foot last year and began to see a stratificational size length because the U.S. is the sole vendor of large reptilian or crocodilian hides. The average length last year was 7 feet, 3 inches, 4.4 million acres of land were hunted, and harvested right at 25,000 alligators in the wild. Most of the skins went to the French, Italians and Japanese. Mr. Manning informed the Commissioners that a alligator

tannery has been established in Baton Rouge which will be going into its first year. So far the tannery has processed 4,500 hides but they are still working on their techniques. The tanning business is a very close kept secret throughout the world.

Mr. Manning went on to report that at this time there are 129 licensed alligator farms. Last year 180,000 eggs were contracted out and around 140,000 were hatched out which brought the total on the farms last year to about 221,000 farm raised alligators. This year 385,000 eggs have been permitted to be picked up from the wild and are probably in the process of hatching. In the next month or so there will probably 350,000 alligators on the farms. There were 25,000 alligators sold this past harvest year and right now approaching 75,000 alligators coming from the farms. There are a few thousands tags left for this year which will end August 31. Mr. Manning commented that they are hoping the department does not run out of tags for the farmers and looking at taking about 100,000 alligators this year from the farms. There will be 150,000 tags for next year but are already looking at ordering more from Fish and Wildlife Service Mr. Manning informed the Commission. Concluding his report Mr. Manning asked for questions. There being none Chairman Pol thanked Mr. Manning for his report.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Blue Watson gave a **Status Report and Update on the Scenic Rivers System**. Mr. Watson proceeded to bring the Commissioners up-to-date on what has been going on with the Scenic Rivers System. Last year the department was able to increase its staff so that there are now 2 full-time Scenic Rivers Systems personnel on board. Mr. Watson then gave a brief history of the Scenic Rivers System. The Scenic Rivers System was established in the last 60s' and early 70s' to protect some of the better streams in Louisiana. A lot of the streams were incorporated into the system through the legislative process and were designated ~~instantaneous scenic river~~ some of which were more scenic than others. The system has evolved to the point where there are now 49 streams or streams segments in the system scattered throughout the state. This past legislative session there were 3 more streams that were nominated to be included in the system. These 3 streams are the lower portion of the Calcasieu River from Whiskey Chitto to Moss Bluff, Cypress Creek in Rapides Parish which is a tributary to the Calcasieu River and Bay Darbonne between Lake Claiborne and Lake Darbonne. Surveys will have to be done on the streams and recommendations will have to be made to the legislature prior to the next session as to whether or not those streams are considered worthy of being included in the system. The Scenic Rivers Task Force was established by the legislature to develop some new rules and regulations based on a new Scenic Rivers Act that was passed 2 or 3 years ago. The task force has done this and the regulations have not been promulgated as of yet. A copy of the initial draft of the new Scenic Rivers Regulations was received from the task force in late May just prior to the beginning of the legislative session and in consultation with the department's legal counsel it was determined that the department would wait until after the session to review rules/regulations, make final recommendation to

the Secretary then go back to the task force and to the public for some comments on the rules and regulations. At the same time the task force was putting together the recommended rules and regulations with the assistance of the Tulane Environmental Law Institute ~~instituted~~ a statewide survey on the Scenic River System to gather as much information as possible on the 49 streams that are in the system. The department is now in the process of preparing a report on the Scenic Rivers Survey which has been completed, at least the initial phase. This report will be in 3 separate covers, in 3 different degrees of complexity. Number 1 will be the overall report to the legislature and to the Commission which will cover essentially what was done in the survey and going into great detail on what was actually found. Number 2 will be a public information document which will simply be a synopsis covering each of the scenic rivers. The department has an agreement with LSU Cadgis Lab and they have developed and drafted the maps. The publication should be available to the public hopefully by the latter part of September. Number 3 publication is a regulatory publication which will include the scenic rivers regulations once they are promulgated and information to an applicant about what would be required of him under the Scenic Rivers Act to get a permit to do an activity on a scenic river. Two individuals have been hired for this section, enforcement activity has increased significantly, (getting a lot of cooperation from the public and) in the process of trying to develop an outreach program with the public to establish a "River Watch System" of public groups around the state. There are people all over the state who are very interested in this system and who are helping the department out tremendously Mr. Watson informed the Commission. There are plans for expanding the surveys to gather much more detailed information on the streams primarily for regulatory reasons. The surveillance activities are ongoing and Mr. Lee Caubarreux who is the field biologist is right now working with a complaint that has been received on Big Creek for unauthorized water withdrawal. A verbal cease and desist order has been issued and in the process of trying to get the company to comply with requesting a permit. There are also problems with land clearing, particularly along the upper Calcasieu River and have been in very heated discussions with the organization (Roy O. Martin-Alexandria) who ~~are~~ involved advised Mr. Watson. Recommendations have been made through the department's forester about the prohibition against clear cutting along the scenic rivers and have tried to come up with a good definition of what "selective removal" of trees is. The department's forester, Mr. Kenney Ribbeck, has come up with what is believed to be a good definition and Roy O. Martin has been approached with this. They have more or less agreed that they think it is also a good idea and it looks like the Louisiana Forestry Association can be approached to receive cooperation. Mr. Watson asked Dr. Jim Thompson to address the Commission.

Dr. Thompson reported that Act 947 has two sections; Section 1846 and 1848 that relates to planning which is his job. These sections require the department to develop a plan within 1 year after a stream has been selected for the system by the legislature. After

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report as Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Clark has got to return to Baton Rouge. Also there are people attending the meeting that would like to address the Commission. The rest of the agenda will be taken up at Friday advised Chairman Pol.

At Thursday's meeting the **Monthly Law Enforcement Report** was presented by Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Clark. Lt. Colonel Clark reported that at this time of the year law enforcement spends most of its time on the water. A lot of this has to do with boating safety, commercial fishing along the coast, and fishing license change year. The following cases were made:

Region I - 180 Enforcement cases; 0 Other
Region II - 157 Enforcement cases; 0 Other
Region III - 229 Enforcement cases; 13 Other
Region IV - 140 Enforcement cases; 2 Other
Region V - 252 Enforcement cases; 44 Other
region VI - 292 Enforcement cases; 9 Other
Region VII - 379 Enforcement cases; 15 Other
Region VIII - 314 Enforcement cases; 86 Other
Region IX - 318 Enforcement cases; 11 Other

One of the biggest problems in boating is DWI's. The Amite, Tickfaw and Tangipahoa Rivers have lured the people out of New Orleans and on any given Saturday morning you will find half of New Orleans might decide to go to one particular area. With all the bars on the water now this is causing a dangerous problem.

The Oyster Strike Force had 54 cases and seized 62 sacks of oyster, 1 lugger boat, 2 flatboats, 2 outboard motors, 2 oyster dredges, 2 skiffs, 1 trawl, 2 butterfly nets, 757 lbs. of shrimp, 1 alligator.

The Aircraft had 8 cases. The aircraft support activity is unbelievable and without aircraft enforcement could not even hope to monitor commercial fishing activities, especially in Breton, Chandeleur, off the coast and in and along the coast.

S.W.E.P. had 51 cases; 31-trawling in closed season, 10-oversized trawls. There were 5,815 lbs. of shrimp seized, 32-trawls, with dollar value being \$9,347.33.

Grand total for the month of July was 2,546 cases stated Lt. Colonel Clark. Lt. Colonel Clark pointed out that the quality of the cases that are being made are starting to go up in that enforcement is spending their time where the activity is. Commercial fishing this time of the year is a primary concern along with a lot of boating. Boating will start to decline as of next month's report and will start showing a lot of trawling in closed season, license cases, and hunting cases as the seasons approach. Lt. Colonel asked if there were any questions.

Mr. McCall asked about the night of July 22, 1990, when 3 boats were picked up in Vermilion Bay for going across the line (talking

about Beacon 4). Mr. McCall has received 3 letters from these people, numerous phone calls from other people and he has checked into these people and has found them to be good, reliable fishermen and not trying to get out there and break the law. These people went ahead and paid their fine because it would cost \$3,000-\$4,000 to defend themselves and they would be tied up from fishing. Mr. McCall advised that these people and others have told him that it is more or less been an understanding between the wildlife agents and shrimpers in that area that Beacon #4 would be the line although the line is actually slightly south of Beacon #4. For years these boats have been pushing up to Beacon #4 and turning around to stay within the law according to the understanding with the agents. This particular night the boats apparently went a little pass the line of Beacon #4 and were caught. The people are now asking if a line could be set up where everybody knows where it is stated Mr. McCall. If the line is slightly south of Beacon #4, set up another line so that they will know where it is at. Lt. Colonel Clark stated that he does not have the case incident in front of him but he could get his people to go out and look at the line and see how far the land distant is and pointed out the line was changed 2 years ago consistently along the coast, that simply named point to point as it goes across. Mr. McCall asked if not the western bank of the area pretty well washed out where it is hard to define point to point in a high tide. Lt. Colonel Clark stated yes in the shoal area there and if Mr. McCall could give him the names of the boats he could pull the case report and get with the agents and look into the case. Mr. McCall advised that the will give him the names of the boats after the meeting. Deputy Secretary McInnis advised that the only way the line can be changed is legislatively. Mr. McCall stated that they were not asking that the line be changed only that it be marked.

Chairman Pol called for a motion that the rules be suspended with two-thirds vote to bring before the Commission several other issues. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the rules be suspended and take up items under **Other Business**. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

Chairman Pol asked District Attorney Billy Pechue to address the Commission. Mr. Pechue stated that he had talked with Congressman Clyde Holloway and Senator Joe McPherson about this and is also speaking for about 12 District Attorney and probably everybody that is running for office at this time. Mr. Pechue appealed to the Commission that they discuss the squirrel season which opens on Election Day this year. There are 21,000 registered voters in Evangeline Parish and it is figured that 15,000 will vote this election because all of the issues stated Mr. Pechue and at least 10 percent will not vote because of squirrel season. People voting absentee have to go to the court house which in some cases are 30 miles from where they live. The polls are opened from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and if a person works from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. there is no way for a person to vote absentee during the week. On Saturdays they are opened from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and if there is a large number trying to vote there is no way that all of them

will be able to do so. It is being requested that the Commission change the squirrel season from October 6 which is also Election Day. Moving the season back may cause some problems but moving it forward would not cause any problem if some people did not get the word that it had changed suggested Mr. Pechue. Mr. Pechue advised that he has talked with Colonel Winton Vidrine and was told that enforcement would not have any problems with this, particularly if it goes forward. Throughout the state the opening of squirrel season on Election Day will cause some people an election pointed out Mr. Pechue. There was a bill, by Senator Seviro, in the legislature this year that did deal with seasons opening on election days but was killed in committee with department people speaking against it stated Mr. Pechue. Since it was too late to have another committee, Senator Seviro on the last day of the legislature had the Senate pass a resolution (39-0) requesting the Commission to change the date. Mr. Pechue stated that he was informed that a copy of this resolution had been sent to the Commissioners. Several of the Commissioners stated that they did not receive the resolution or any other correspondence pertaining to this. Mr. Pechue commented that if this was not important from the Congressman on down to the Justice of Peace, the 12 constitutional amendments, that he certainly would not be taking up the Commission's time and appealed to the Commission to change the opening day of squirrel season. There will be 15,000-18,000 people not voting on Election Day because of squirrel season stated Mr. Pechue.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Pechue if he was a squirrel hunter. Mr. Pechue answered "no" but he has sons that are. Mr. Jones stated that if the scenario is correct that what Mr. Pechue has given there is obviously going to be a cross section from all the people and how they would vote so there would be a pro-rata share of the above voters saying they are going. Mr. Jones commented that he believes that outdoors men are responsible people in his area and he feels quite confident knowing that this is Election Day that he himself as a squirrel hunter will vote. Everyone knows that the first day of squirrel hunting season from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and on that nobody hunts because the wind blows, too many leaves, you cannot run dogs, it is not conducive to good hunting tactics and if a hunter is going to leave the parish they need to be responsible enough to vote absentee stated Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones also pointed out that archery season will also be going on. Mr. Pechue stated that he has yet to meet a hunter who objected to the changing of the opening day.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Bateman if there was any objections as far as the department staff is concerned? Mr. Bateman advised not really and that this had been discussed with the Commission earlier when the bills were under consideration in the legislature. From a biological standpoint it makes no difference. This has been in place for many years and the department checked with the Secretary of State to see how many times this would occur which would be once every great so often. The department thinks a good many sportsmen would be disappointed if the season is changed now that they have

set dates to hunt, etc. and Mr. Bateman stated that he did not know if the Commission has ever done this before. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Pechue if any candidate would get a disproportion amount of the vote that won't show up because of this opening? Mr. Pechue answered it was a little difficult for him to say, but he would say "yes" and reason would be because it is the type of person who goes hunting, the independent people. Dr. Hines pointed out that Mr. Pechue probably has a greater concern about squirrel hunting than say Representative Roach might have because squirrel hunting in Evangeline Parish is kind of a religion and would be like duck hunting down in Cameron Parish and asked if it would be legal to move the date forward. Legal Counsel, Mr. Don Puckett, stated that the bill that was passed by Senator Kelley last year in his opinion gave the Commission greater authority than what has been set in the statute. In other words if the Commission sets a season that varies from the October 1 framework it is Mr. Puckett's opinion that the Commission has the authority to do this because the way the bill is written it says "any season that is set by a rule promulgated by the Commission supersedes the statutory set season". Dr. Hines asked if the season could be changed without a public hearing, would this be legal? Mr. Puckett stated that it could be legally done by promulgating an emergency rule to put it into effect but the problem as he sees it, not so much as a legal one as it is with regard to the public, is the fact that even ~~thought~~ *thought* it was legally taken up under Other Business it was not on the published agenda so that someone who might have an opinion contrary to District Attorney Pechue would not have known to be here to speak against it.

Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis added that as a point of clarification on the legislature that he was the individual who spoke on behalf of the department for informational purposes only at the request of one of the representatives. They did have a quorum at the time and it was one of the last meeting ~~that they did have.~~ *5* The question that was asked Mr. McInnis was how is this going to change things which basically it would be on a different weekend than it had been for a number of years. At this point in time the representative that had introduced was concerned about displacing the other segment of the population who had made their plans and at that time withdrew the bill. The department did not speak in opposition of the bill but only answered questions advised Mr. McInnis.

Dr. Hines stated that he was in great sympathy with Mr. Pechue on this issue but he can see some major problems that this change will cause. One of the problems is that every bow hunter in the state of Louisiana will be on the Commission if it is moved forward because the guns will be in the woods before the bows. The second problem is the large number of people who have already planned their vacations to take off to go squirrel hunting on October 6.

Chairman Pol advised that this issue will be taken under consideration by the Commission and will inform Mr. Bateman in the

morning as to the decision of the Commission. Mr. Pechue thanked the Commission for allowing him to address them on this issue.

At this point in time Chairman Pol turned the meeting over to Mr. Norman McCall. Mr. McCall related that a sizable number of sizable shrimp have appeared in Calcasieu Lake and boats are picking up 30 to 40 boxes a night. The shrimp appear to be migrating out of the system at a rapid rate and there has been concern by many of the fishermen and other people in the area about the migration and the possibility of the loss of the shrimp to the local fishermen. Mr. McCall advised that he has talked to Dr. Jerry Clark about this and believes that there is a way to work this out and possibly salvage some of the shrimp. Mr. McCall stated that Dr. Clark would like to let any of the fishermen attending the meeting speak on the subject and then Dr. Clark and he will follow.

The following persons addressed the Commission:

Representative Randy Roach from District 36 which includes all of Cameron and part of Calcasieu stated that the proposition that they have to present to the Commission today is an early opening of the shrimp season. They were hoping it could be opened statewide but talking to Dr. Clark he does not think the data would justify statewide opening except for Zone 3. The Cameron Parish Police Jury had sent a letter to the department, which they have not received yet, which basically request an early opening of the shrimp season provided that it would be statewide. The situation seems to be that in Calcasieu Lake there is a good crop of large white shrimp that are marketable and the fishermen have been suffering ~~as many of the across the state~~ economically, and some of them would like to have the opportunity to harvest that crop. There is concern over the fact that if the season could not be opened statewide in all zones this would present an undue amount of pressure on this area and in effect could in the long run end up harming the entire season for the sake of 1 or 2 days of fishing. Representative Roach stated that he was not really in a position to advocate one way or the other and would like for the gentlemen who are attending the meeting to explain to the Commission their concerns and feelings on the issue. Senator Doland would like to speak also commented Representative Roach and perhaps at the end a summarization could be made along with a recommendations if this is alright with the Commissioners. Chairman Pol advised that this would be fine.

Mr. Preston Hebert, Cameron, commented that the problems was that everyday you leave the season closed the shrimp will be lost before the opening. The same thing happened in the spring season. There was good shrimp in the lake, 50-60, 40-50, mixed with 21-25, 15-20 white shrimp. The moon before the lake opened the shrimp migrated out and when the season opened in the spring the fishermen were fishing 150 count shrimp. Mr. Hebert would like to see the season opened by the 15th if there is anyway possible.

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Mr. Bill Dyson, commercial shrimper, commented that right now he can work in the Gulf and make a living. If the season is opened right now or on the 15th shrimpers from other areas will come in and wipe it out and Cameron will benefit none by these shrimp in the lake because they will not even be sold in Cameron. Mr. Dyson does not believe the season should be opened until the 20th of August as originally set.

Mr. Mike Bargalua, oyster business, St. Mary Parish, commented that he had a lot of shrimpers call him this morning and asked that he relay to the Commission to leave the shrimp season as it is, August 20th, because Vermilion Bay has a lot of little shrimp in it.

Chairman Pol stated that Mr. Dale Vinet, former Commission member, representing his people in the Delcambre area, had called him and requested the date stay the same, August 20th.

Mr. C. J. Kieffe, Cameron Parish, stated that this is the criteria that you have to look at. What is the creditability of the Commission. At the July meeting a season was set for August 20th. When the season was set did the Commission take into consideration that the date would have to be changed. If the Commission did not take it into consideration that the date would have to be changed depending on the biological survey than leave the date as it is because the Commission will change its creditability commented Mr. Kieffe. If the season opens on the 15th you are talking about 200-300 boats on Calcasieu Lake as compared to 100 boats if the season opens on the 20th pointed out Mr. Kieffe and these are the things that the Commission is going to have to make a decision on. Mr. Kieffe advised that he felt for the people who want to open on the 15th and for the people who want to open on 20th but he was not in the fishing business anymore but in the net and supply business and when the shrimpers don't make money neither does he.

Mr. Dolanque, shrimper, commented that if the season is opened on the 20th most of the shrimp will be gone. The people that are going to catch them are the people that are fishing in the jetties and the people that go out in the Gulf. The little shrimpers with little boats and the people that butterfly for a living are not going to have a chance. Mr. Dolanque believes the season should be opened on the 15th of August.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Dolanque to put himself in the position of the Commission. Here you have Zones 1 and 2 saying that they do not want to open under any conditions because they still have very small shrimp. Now, let say that the Commission has no objections to opening Zone 3 earlier and if they do the shrimpers will have to suffer the consequences of boats coming in from all over to shrimp. The Commission is going to try and do everything to help everybody stated Chairman Pol and all recommendations will have to be considered.

After a short discussion between Chairman Pol and Mr. Dolanque on the growth of shrimp Dr. Clark was asked how fast a shrimp would

grown in 5 day. Dr. Jerry Clark advised that on average shrimp grows a millimeter a day ~~(a little bit)~~.

With no further comments from the audience, Chairman Pol asked Senator Jack Doland to address the group.

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Senator Doland stated that not being a shrimpers he will just have to weigh what he has heard just like the Commission will have to weigh and make a recommendation. Many people have called requesting that it be opened early but Senator Doland does not know if they have taken in the ramifications of the boating that would come in to the area if it is opened early. If Zones 1 and 2 cannot be opened early, then everybody who has a movable situation in these areas, or who would want to take the trouble will come in and swamp Zone 3 very little will having been gained by the fishermen from this area. This is the question you are looking at and Senator Doland believes it is a shame that the best time for shrimping in their area is not the same for the other zones. Dr. Clark was asked by Senator Doland about the biological data and if it showed that Zone 3 should be opened for shrimping. Dr. Clark stated that there are good size shrimp in the lake right now that could be caught. There are also pretty good numbers of small shrimp that ought to not be caught in the lake and like somebody said today that they do not want to catch small ones and if it opened now and if people targeted on those larger shrimp and not the small shrimp it would be good to be opened but that is the dilemma of shrimp management, especially white shrimp commented Dr. Clark. Dr. Clark stated that he agrees with everything that he has heard today.

Senator Doland stated that he had asked Mr. James King, Southwest Fishermen Association, about this and Mr. King had wanted to open it early but again he is not at this meeting to listen to the discussion and to hear the situation involved. Senator Doland's agreement with Mr. King was to ask the Commission to open the season early. If the early opening is going to bring in a influx of people that will have no good effect on this area shrimpers than absolutely nothing has been done and the area shrimpers will be struggling with a lot of strange boats out there commented Senator Doland. Senator Doland advised that if he had to vote that he would vote to leave the season like it is but doesn't think that necessarily couldn't be changed with any arguments that anybody wants to put up. Senator Doland feels like the problem is whatever leaves, that much would be lost by strange people wiping out the lake in 2 or 3 days. Senator Doland stated that this is just one opinion and he certainly respects everybody else's opinion and just trying to weigh it all but will stick with this as a recommendation if the Commission needs a recommendation. his

Chairman Pol thanked Senator Doland for in address and asked Representative Randy Roach how he felt about this.

Representative Roach stated that obviously the Commission would not be agonizing with this decision if Senator Doland and he had not

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prevailed upon Mr. McCall to try and bring it up and do it. Senator Doland and Representative have talked to people all week and talked about the crop that is out there and the fact that these guys have been struggling. Representative Roach advised that he is not a shrimper but he does know that there is an unknown factor in the lake right now, and that is the impact that this Cameron-Creole Watershed Project has on the shrimp, production, etc. After considering what Representative Roach has heard this afternoon and some of the concerns that have been expressed he too is concerned about the impact that opening Zone 3 would have and getting all those boats on the lake. This could very well impact and ruin the entire season especially when you have some of those immature juvenile shrimp in the lake and when you put a bunch of boats in there this could very well happen stated Representative Roach. Representative Roach believes that the main thing is that the people in Cameron Parish know that the Commission is responsive to their needs and their concerns and believes that the Commission has demonstrated this and it is appreciated ~~it~~ very much. Representative Roach suggested to the Commission, at this time, that maybe, on balance, the season be left as it is and let mother nature work her magic and hopefully those shrimp will grow maybe a little bit more than a millimeter a day.

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Chairman Pol asked the new Commission member, Mr. Houston Foret, that since he was a shrimp processor what his views were on this. Mr. Foret stated that he has heard both sides and has made a lot of phone calls yesterday and today. Right now in their area there are outlaws that are catching at night and still have a lot of brown shrimp at about 31-35 but into the shallow bays there is a real beautiful crop of white shrimp which runs right at 60-70 count right now. Mr. Foret stated that they do not feel that it is feasible to open their area any earlier than the 20th, if possible even later, because for ~~one~~ simple reason all processing plants at this time have a lot of small shrimp in the freezer and they cannot afford to have the season opened right now with small shrimp. Mr. Foret commented that he does not know what size shrimp they have in Calcasieu and if they do run anywhere from 20-35 he would be in favor of going ahead and opening Calcasieu, but leave Zones 1 and 2 alone.

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Chairman Pol stated that from the standpoint of action by the Commission that there is no need to take any action on this issue and the date of the opening of the fall "white" shrimp season will be left as it is, August 20, 1990. Dr. Clark briefly commented and said that before the people in this area leave that he thinks everybody here today has gotten an introduction to some of us and those who have been in the industry a long time know that this happens every year on every opening and every closing there is in the shrimp fishery. Right now there is a Governor's task force trying to put together a Shrimp Fishery Management Plan ~~and this is like a personal invitation to everybody in this room who is associated with the shrimp fishery to become part of that process so that this Commission and the department and the legislature in the future can try and come to a resolution on a reasonable bases~~

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using everybody's input about how to make these decisions year, after year, after year stated Dr. Clark. Dr. Clark's opinion is that the swords that are currently held are to blunt and if a way could be found to let the people in Calcasieu harvest that crop in a flexible system for all the zones then this is what everyone should be trying to do. Dr. Clark believes that the Shrimp Task Force is trying vainly to come up. Chairman Pol asked if there was anybody from the area on the task force. Dr. Clark answered that there are 3 members. Senator Doland said that C. J. Kieffe, Butch Willis and Bolo Trosclair are members of the task force. They may not be direct shrimpers but they know what is needed advised Senator Doland.

Chairman Pol adjourned the Thursday's meeting of the Commission and advised that the meeting will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. Friday morning.

At Friday's meeting Chairman Pol advised that when the meeting was adjourned Thursday they were in a matter of **Other Business** and this should be gotten out of the way. There were several items that are being brought up under Other Business.

Chairman Pol asked that the records reflect that at the Joint Meeting with the Texas Parks and Wildlife on July 19 at the San Marcos Fish Hatchery, the Commission had promised that the possibility of setting joint limits of crappie on the Toledo Bend Area would be investigated. Chairman Pol has instructed Dr. Clark to meet with the Texas Commission, come up with a joint recommendation and bring it back to the board so that this can be reviewed and approved. What is trying to be adverted is not to have 2 limits on Toledo Bend, otherwise have one limit that will serve for both Texas and Louisiana. Chairman Pol directed Dr. Clark to pursue this right away. Dr. Clark stated he would.

Chairman Pol advised that Mr. Don Puckett had been asked to research a couple of items. One was the speckled trout as supplied by the legislature during this past session and Mr. Puckett will give his opinion of what the law says. Another was to render a ruling on appointments and such with the board. Chairman Pol asked Mr. Puckett to give the Commission both of these decisions and explain how they were arrived at.

Mr. Puckett, Legal Counsel, informed the Commission that he had looked at the issue with regard to the speckled trout. The legislature for the past couple of years and more have treated speckled trout and redfish uniquely as compared to other finfish and basically the sections that were reviewed are Sections 625, 22 and 326.3 all of which were amended or affected by Act 376 of the current legislature. All of the acts that do not become effective by signature of the Governor will become effective September 2, or September 7 1990. The Commission was granted broad powers to regulate finfish including the powers to set possession limits, quotas, seasons, times, size limits and daily take limits. However, as has been the case in the past redfish and speckled

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trout was excluded from this being given special treatment. The recreational creel limit and the commercial quota are both specifically set by statute in the legislature has seen fit not to give the Commission that power. However, from the standpoint, and as Mr. Puckett understands it, there is presently a problem with the current levels of speckled trout and the Commission is considering delaying the opening of the commercial quota season and/or considering the closure of the recreational fishery. It is Mr. Puckett's opinion, under Section 22, which was also amended in the same act, and from which redbfish and speckled trout were not excluded that the Commission does have that power to close. As far as something short of a closure such as modification of a quota affecting the creel limit or other measures that you might take Dr. Puckett does not believe they have that prerogative. Mr. Jenkins asked if they close it can they reopen it? Mr. Puckett answered basically, with regard to the commercial, he thinks here a closure would in effect amount to a delay of the beginning of the commercial year (the fishing year begins September 1). It would amount to a closure where the Commission would simply be delaying the beginning of that year until such time as biological data would indicate it would be appropriate to open it commented Mr. Puckett.

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Mr. Jones asked that if it is found that there are no speckled trout, they really should not be harvested, and the freeze was much more detrimental than what was anticipated the Commission can close fishing to speckled trout. Mr. Puckett answered that is correct but it cannot be modified. Deputy Secretary McInnis concurred in Mr. Puckett reading of the ruling on speckled trout and redbfish. Dr. Hines asked if these are powers that do not go into effect until September 2 or September 7, 1990, how can this be used today. Deputy Secretary McInnis stated that the power that the Secretary has has been a long standing power and that is it is sort of like a declaration of emergency that the species is not in a posture to sustain a harvest, whether it be recreational or commercial, you would close the whole harvest. This power extends to all species as Deputy Secretary McInnis appreciates it. Mr. Puckett explained that Section 22 actually predates the act, it was amended by the act and what it ~~tell~~ Mr. Puckett that when the legislature excluded redbfish and speckled trout from these broad powers that the Commission was granted for the finfish, they intended to allow emergency type closures for even redbfish and speckled trout. Section 22, before the effective date of this act, is on the books now and has been for years.

Mr. Puckett went on to advised the Commission on appointments and re-appointments of the Commissioners. The constitution provides that no Commissioner who has served 6 years can be re-appointed. Mr. Puckett stated that he had reviewed this basically to address those questions where a Commissioner could or could not be re-appointed and have broken it down to 4 situations. The first situation is the Governor's appointee. There is one commissioner that does not serve the 6 year term and instead is appointed to serve concurrent with the Governor. This section clearly contemplates that if a Governor serves 2 full terms that the

and then, when that term expired, be reappointed to the Commission.

commissioner can be re-appointed to serve that full term amounting to 8 years, otherwise the mandate is for a 6 year term. Mr. Puckett advised that another situation he looked at was where a commissioner would be appointed to fill out the unexpired term of a particular commissioner ~~when that unexpired term expires then at time that same commissioner can be re-appointed to fill out that term.~~ This would fit within the 6 years provision. The other situations that were looked at was someone resigning to fill out the unexpired term of a commissioner and also someone resigning just to circumvent the 6 year provision and it was concluded that resignation was not contemplated by this. This would have to be a new appointment followed by a subsequent appointment to fit the meaning of the constitutional provision concluded Mr. Puckett. Chairman Pol asked if any members of the Commission had any questions. There being none Chairman Pol went on the last item under Other Business.

The last item to be taken up advised Chairman Pol is an item that Mr. McCall would like to have addressed relative to the airplane usage at Rockefeller. Mr. McCall stated that for several years at Rockefeller they had a small plane that was used approximately 200 hours a year or more in law enforcement and other project around the refuge. This plane crashed about a year or so ago and after it crashed a move was initiated to try and get the plane restored and brought back to Rockefeller. This drug on for several months and Mr. McCall had several conversations with Secretary Van Sickle. On the way to the meeting in Monroe, Secretary Van Sickle told Mr. McCall that she had some good news and that a way had been figured out to get the plane repaired and brought back to Rockefeller. This was passed on to Mr. Ted Joanen and the personnel at Rockefeller by Mr. McCall and they were happy to hear this. Mr. McCall stated that he believes that the way they were planning on getting the plane repaired was to have a Vo-Tech school do the work and these negotiations between Ms. Bettsie Baker and the school went on for quite some time, maybe several months and fell through. The school apparently decided that they did not want to repair the plane or take the responsibility to repair it. At that point other avenues were explored as to how the plane could be repaired and get it back to its original service. People have gone to Mr. McCall that were deeply involved in the alligator program and said that they have no problem with using part of the money generated from the \$4.00 tag fee to use with the insurance money to restore the plane and put back in service. Mr. McCall advised that he has been told that there is approximately \$70,000 to \$75,000 of unused money in this fund at the present and at the same time getting another report from the main office saying that there is no money. Mr. McCall stated that he does not know who is right or who is wrong but does know a large number of people are very interested in getting the plane back into its original service and feel like it is a very valuable tool at Rockefeller with many uses. Mr. McCall informed those attending the meeting that he would like to see, personally, the plane brought back and put back to what it has been used for in the past but understands there is quite a bit of opposition from certain people whom he is sure will

be speaking out this morning. There is also quite a few people in favor of this and not just people in Cameron Parish pointed out Mr. McCall and informed those attending that he has been contacted by people in Vermilion, Lafayette, Lake Charles, and of course Cameron Parish to try and get the plane restored and put back into service. Mr. McCall stated that he cannot see why there is any problem using this money, if there is a surplus, and people have dedicated and penalized themselves and went along and increased the tag fee from \$2.00 to \$4.00. If there is surplus money and they want to use it for this purpose Mr. McCall sees no reason why this cannot be done. Mr. McCall stated that he is asking the Commission to consider allowing this to happen and getting the plane repaired and put back into its original service. Chairman Pol announced that before any discussion be entertained from the floor that Ms. Bettsie Baker address this issue

Ms. Baker stated that she does not know if there is a lot to be said but she would be very happy to address the issue. This aircraft was purchased in 1968 for \$15,569 out of Rockefeller money. The plane was wrecked last August rather severely and the department had originally tried to work with the Vo-Tech school to get it repaired free of charge by a cooperative agreement where they would agree to provide all of the labor and whatever as an educational tool to their students which would help them get certified and stay accredited and in return the department would get the aircraft repaired. Mr. Puckett and Ms. Baker worked up a cooperative agreement with the school and sent it to them and had significant conversations with them over the "ifs", "ans" and "buts", who pays for what, and who retains ownership of the airplane after the end of its repair. The memorandum of agreement or cooperative agreement sat over at the school for about 3 months and ultimately they decided that they could not do it advised Ms. Baker. The department has received bids to have the aircraft repaired and the lowest price for repair was \$32,800. Of this, the department has insurance proceeds of \$5,000. Ms. Baker stated that to her this is not a smart economical move to make, to have the aircraft replaced, repaired or whatever. Ms. Baker stated that she has discussed this with Deputy Secretary McInnis, and Secretary Van Sickle and they have looked at it, looked at the utilization, and all feel that the department has sufficient aircraft that can meet any of the aircraft requirement. A float plane was moved from the New Orleans area into the central section of Louisiana so that law enforcement purposes could be covered and is approximately 20-25 minutes away from the refuge and if there are flight requirements it is really easy for Mr. Chad Manuel and Mr. James Nunez and whoever needs law enforcement backup support to request the airplane and it will be over there on routine regular duty or whatever advised Ms. Baker. In regards to survey work and other kinds of requirements there is a pilot in Baton Rouge whose primary purpose is to fly survey work. The Aviation Section is under Ms. Baker and there have been very few days when they have not been able to work out or coordinate aircraft schedules and pilots schedules. Ms. Baker stated that she can think only of 4 or 5 time when they have not been able to meet all the needs of the

department and one of these was in the emergency situation after the freeze of Christmas this past year. Looking at this and looking at the fact that in the last year since the Piper Cub has been down Ms. Baker advised that she has had essentially 3 requests out of Rockefeller for aircraft, one of which they were allowed to rent a plane to do some particular purpose. Ms. Baker stated that she does not feel that the replacement of this aircraft is necessary and thinks that it would be imprudent from a financial perspective to encourage this. All the paperwork has been submitted and the plane as of now is in the possession of State Property Control Ms. Baker informed the Commission and as far as she is concerned it is a dead issue.

Chairman Pol commented to Ms. Baker that he thought one of the questions that the board would like to have answered is to clear up this matter about the money and is this money that Mr. McCall is talking about, is that available? In other words Mr. McCall says he is getting two conflicting stories of approximately \$75,000 and is that money available to use if the board so decides asked Chairman Pol.

Ms. Baker stated that she would address this to the best of her ability. Working a budget in state government is very different from working a budget or financial matters in a private enterprise. If you own a company and you say you want to spend money to do something you go ahead and do it pointed out Ms. Baker. When you work in state government every single line item that the department has expenditure authority for goes before the budget committee, etc., etc. Dollars for operating divisions are appropriated according to means of financing and with particular purposes in mind. It is very difficult from a revenue perspective to track every single dollar that comes into the department and see that it is allocated to its end purpose stated Ms. Baker. In fact if this was the case managing the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries would be very difficult. Within broad categories the department tries to track those monies that particularly for commercial purposes; whether it is the commercial finfish industry or the shrimp industry, or the oyster industry, or the alligator industry the department tries and track those dollars because they revert back to particular individuals private pocket books. The current administration feels that it is not appropriate for recreational activities to support or subsidize commercial activities and the department has tried to make the commercial endeavors, which they regulate, bear the full freight for their operations stated Ms. Baker. In the budget process dollars are appropriated for different programs according to what is required to do that. Ms. Baker stated that on tracking whether there is \$75,000 left over she did not know how to answer that question but could tell the Commissioners that last year the Fur and Refuge Division spent every red cent that it had available to them through the budget process to spend, not only through the budget process but through the actual revenue received process they spent every red cent that they had available. Under these circumstances mineral income to Rockefeller is down significantly and when the needs of the refuge

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are to be met first and foremost in order to meet the deeds of donation requirement Ms. Baker stated that she finds the request for refurbishing this aircraft to be extravagant.

Chairman Pol stated that he doesn't think the Commission still got the answer and would rephrase the question. Chairman Pol asked if by some circumstance the board votes to refurbish this airplane and we know that there is \$5,000 available from the insurance, will there be money available for the other \$25,000 approximately that will be necessary to put this airplane back in the air?

Ms. Baker answered that in order for this to happen someone needs to say we are not going to do \$25,000 of something else and it has to be in the appropriate budget category.

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Mr. McCall stated that this does not really please him and what he wants to know is ~~there is a set~~ between \$70,000 and \$75,000 of unused money generated from the \$4.00 tag fee left that has not been used?

Ms. Baker stated that she does not have an answer to that question and she does not know.

Mr. McCall commented that it looks like the people in Baton Rouge ought to know if there is \$75,000 left over or if there is not \$75,000 and stated that \$75,000 is a pretty good sum of money.

Ms. Baker advised that she could tell Mr. McCall that there are excess dollars in the Conservation Fund that are being carried forward from last fiscal year into this fiscal year but to go back and identify which specific dollars they were attributed to she cannot do this right now as she does not have this information available.

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Mr. McCall asked if there was anyone from the Baton Rouge office in this building today that can answer this question.

Ms. Baker stated that she doesn't think so and asked Ms. Wynettee Kees if she ~~know~~, which she did not.

Mr. McCall asked Mr. James Manning, Assistant Administrator of Fur and Refuge Division, if he had this information. Mr. Manning stated that the \$70,000-\$75,000 that is being mentioned here is a pretty good estimate of this prior year's budget, the alligator budget. The funds that were budgeted by the legislature, a total of \$371,000 for that program. The latest printouts of expenditures from the past year of that approved budget there is somewhere in that neighborhood of those monies left over stated Mr. Manning. There is no way that last year's budget can be taken and do repairs to the plane because the budget died June 30 and as Ms. Baker said any funds used for refurbishing the plane would have to come from an existing budget or go through the process of amending the budget through the legislature if additional funds are available from the tag fees to add to the budget advised Mr. Manning. Mr. Manning

stated that he understands that the alligator industry has taken a great interest in trying to get this plane back in service.

Dr. Hines asked Ms. Baker how much would a comparable plane cost? Ms. Baker answered between \$51,000 and \$55,000. Dr. Hines stated that since this plane, as of now, is under the control of State Property Division what would be the necessary steps for the department to reclaim this aircraft? Ms. Baker stated that the plane has been turned over for disposal through the property control process and would have to investigate the possibilities of reclaiming it. Dr. Hines stated that he guesses it could be reclaimed for a price because somebody else could and asked about the price. Mr. Baker stated that reclaiming for a price is correct and the minimum salvage value has been established for \$7,500 for the aircraft.

Chairman Pol asked if there were any other questions. Mr. Jones stated that he wanted to talk a little history of the airplane and asked who was going to fly the plane? Mr. Bettsie answered that this was a good question and that Mr. Guthrie Perry had been flying this aircraft but subsequent to the crash of this aircraft new aviation policies and procedures have been instituted within the department. The department has a new Chief Pilot and the department is of the opinion that professional pilots who work for the Wildlife and Fisheries as pilots should be the ones flying airplanes stated Ms. Baker. One exception has been put in place and Secretary Van Sickle is adamant, she would like Mr. Mike Windham to continue to be able to do his survey and research that he does but beyond that since the Aviation Section reports to Ms. Baker and as a result of this accident procedures such that only pilots fly aircraft have been put in place commented Ms. Baker. Mr. Jones stated that maybe the Rockefeller group could help him and asked who was planning on flying the airplane? It was noted that Mr. Guthrie Perry would be one to fly the plane. It was established that Mr. Perry was the one flying the plane when it crashed. Mr. Jones stated that he would like to ask Mr. Perry some questions. Mr. Jones stated that he flies an airplane but cannot remember how many hours, a good many though, and he is a tail dragger pilot. There are 2 kind of tail dragger pilots, one that has ground loop already and the ones that are going to. It was established that the plane that was crashed was a Super Cub 150, PA18. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Perry what was he doing. Mr. Perry stated that on that particular day he was flying Charlie Dugas, waterfowl biologist from the Opelousas area. Mr. Dugas had come to the office around 12 noon or a few minutes after to ask to do a survey of some water hyacinth problems in the Superior Canal Complex. Duck season was coming up and they have had some complaints about hyacinths in some of the areas and he was going to have to bring a crew in to spray the hyacinths and needed to know how bad they had spread, what kind of equipment had to be brought, etc. Mr. Perry and Mr. Dugas had gone up and had flown part of the survey and ~~was~~ coming back down in the Grand Lake area when the plane quit. Mr. Jones asked when Mr. Perry says "quit" what happened. Mr. Perry answered that they had done their pre-flight and so forth and explained what they were

doing to Mr. Dugas. They then went up and were going across Grand Lake and making a bank in that area, fairly low level, turning to come back and the engine quit. At that time Mr. Perry tried the mags, the carburetor heat, switched tanks and so forth and started back up just for an instance and then it quit again but did get them back over the marsh. Mr. Perry stated that he was trying to get it back near a road and follow the road system back over to the airport then it went down. Just before it went down Mr. Perry had given Mr. Dugas the radio and told him to tell the location while he was doing what he had to do. The plane was brought in with full flaps and did flip over. No one was hurt. At that time the radio did not work and they had no walkie-talkie. The emergency ELT plus the one on the plane was working. Around 4:00 p.m. a helicopter was passing and picked up Mr. Perry and Mr. Dugas and brought them to the Rockefeller office. Upon arriving Mr. Perry called the Baton Rouge office first thing then called Mr. Leo Rodriguez who was the Chief Pilot at that time, then called the FAA, then called the insurance company, then went to the hospital for a checkup. The next day the aircraft was examined by Mr. Larry Kidwell, Baton Rouge, from the Aviation Section in charge of all state aircraft and Mr. Perry. The signal was picked up by somebody around Baton Rouge and maybe New Orleans because there was a short time when the department knew about the possibility of a plane down near Grand Lake.

Mr. Jones stated that he was more concerned with how did it happen, was there a FAA crash report filed and if so what did they say was the reason for the crash? Mr. Perry stated that there was a report filed and as of right now the reports that he has in his possession have not established any pilot area causes. Mr. Jones stated that he was asking what caused it and was not placing the blame. Mr. Perry stated that he was informed of the possibility of low fuel in one fuel tank and when the plane was banking the uptake did not take it and it also had exhausted the header tank which is the spare tank on the cub. Mr. Jones stated that essentially what Mr. Perry is telling him is that the airplane ran out of gas. Mr. Perry stated that in talking with Mr. Kidwell, who was out there the next day, and pulled the fuel line off, no sir it was not out of fuel. Mr. Kidwell said that there was fuel up to the carburetor when he pulled the fuel line. Also present when the line was pulled was Mr. Leo Rodriguez, Mr. Gene Rackle, Mr. David Richard and Mr. Perry. Mr. Kidwell's words were that Mr. Perry was a victim of circumstances. Mr. Jones stated that it sounds like Mr. Perry was low on fuel, had made high banks and did not have the centrifugal force or the flow through the line to draw it back into the engine and it sounds like Mr. Perry let the airplane run out of fuel to him. Mr. Perry stated on that one tank that was correct and he was not able to switch the another tank because of low altitude. Mr. Jones asked what the FAA said. Mr. Perry informed Mr. Jones that they have not said. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Perry if he was the one who would be flying the airplane if it comes back to Rockefeller. Mr. Perry stated hopefully so, yes. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Perry what kind of airplane tickets did he have. Mr. Perry advised that he has his private, working toward his

commercial which is just about completed and has an instrument rating, establishing him as a private, instrument with no commercial. *name* Mr. Jones asked what was the Wildlife and Fisheries policy for pilot certificates. Ms. Baker answered same as FAA rating to the planes that they fly. Mr. Jones commented ~~do not have to have commercial~~. *asked if they had to* Ms. Baker stated they do on the twin engine she believes but does not know right off. At one time the ATP was required for the bigger plane. Mr. Jones asked how much did the alligator program use an airplane. Mr. Ted Joanen answered that the alligator program uses an airplane in sever different ways. One is enforcement, two is survey. The Cub was used for the whole program (nest locations, telemetry studies and enforcement work) when it first started. When the helicopter became available through commercial rentals Rockefeller was not as dependent on the Cub for the survey work and continued to use the Cub for enforcement and research. *a* The Cub is used in a lot of the alligator research and enforcement endeavor, mainly for the alligator. The Cub is also used for search and rescue in south Louisiana and also for enforcement patrols on the refuge in general advised Mr. Joanen. It has proven valuable to Rockefeller in waterfowl enforcement work primarily looking for bait. The Cub has been used quite regularly for enforcement, for research, for survey, water pollution and search and rescue. At this time Mr. Joanen gave a brief background on Rockefeller. Rockefeller is in a remote area, 85,000 acres, 27 miles of shoreline, 150 miles of canals and quite a challenge. This is just Rockefeller and not the surrounding marsh commented Mr. Joanen. The aircraft greatly facilitated the job of maintaining patrols in a remote area and Rockefeller would certainly like to have it back stated Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Joanen if there weren't planes in New Iberia to check out complaints. Mr. Joanen stated that is right, it is 30 minutes by air if we get the complaint by 6 in the evening, locate the pilot, get permission from Baton Rouge get the pilot in the air and down to Rockefeller but you are normally looking at 2 1/2 to 3 hours. Mr. Jones asked if Mr. Joanen was suggesting that the department change their policy. Mr. Joanen stated that what is being said is with the plane at Rockefeller there is immediate regular response around 15 minutes. An aircraft is just another tool and it is used as a tool to do a better management job stated Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jones stated that he was wondering about utilizing the enforcement plane. Mr. Joanen pointed out that this plane was a float plane and with the obstruction it would not fit in with biological survey work. *5*

0 *then* Mr. Manning pointed out that the Fur and Refuge Division has not put to many requests in for a plane over in the Rockefeller area since initial experiences, after the plane crash, of not getting a plane. Mr. Jones asked if what Mr. Manning was saying that planes were requested and did not get planes? Mr. Manning explained that after the plane crash they had great difficulty in getting a plane, a lot of times it was the weather, a lot of time it was the pilot on leave, a lot of times the planes were down. These people were going through Mr. Manning to request a plane and finally no more requests because they could not get one. *5*

were made

Mr. Jenkins asked that at the time of the accident was there a procedure for authorizing flights. Mr. Perry answered yes they do. Ms. Paula Callais, Baton Rouge, was always notified before a flight but the day of the flight she was not notified, it was during lunch period. A procedure had been established that if there was an emergency flight on the weekends or if no one could be notified before the flight that they were to notify Ms. Callais immediately upon return. This was not the first time a flight had been made without notifying in advance pointed out Mr. Perry. Mr. Jenkins stated that the information that he had at the time the plane went down was that it was not an authorized flight. Mr. Perry commented that it was authorized through his supervisor Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Joanen if ~~got~~ the authorization for the flight. Mr. Joanen answered no and that the request came in from the young man who wanted to observe the marsh. Mr. Joanen asked Mr. Perry who advised him that he was available to fly. Mr. Perry could not get anyone during the lunch hour so he was going to call when he got back stated Mr. Joanen. Mr. Jenkins stated that he was just concerned about the procedures, the overall safety, and the way the whole airplane business is operated. It looks like it is going in 9 different directions without any standardization. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Perry if he was properly licensed at the time of the accident. Mr. Perry answered that he was licensed but did find out after the accident that his medical had expired but as far as FAA was concerned he was legal. This information was given to the people who investigated the accident and they had no problems with it stated Mr. Perry. Mr. Perry believes that they called Ms. Baker and informed her of this. Also immediately after the accident Mr. Perry took the Class 2. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Perry how much total time did he have. Mr. Perry answered 975 hours. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. McInnis if Rockefeller is obliged to handle their own enforcement or is it done through enforcement division or how? Mr. McInnis stated that Rockefeller has about 3 employees that are charged with the responsibility for enforcement on the refuge. When requested people will assist them but they have over the years established a pattern of keeping the laws pretty strict on Rockefeller and there are few people who would have the audacity who would come and violate right on the refuge. Not to many people are poaching on the refuge itself as Mr. McInnis appreciates it. Mr. James Nunez has been able to spend a good bit of his time working in coordination with the agents in this area off of the refuge and does a fine job especially with waterfowl work. When realigning the positioning of the float plane was reviewed Lake Charles was considered at the time but New Iberia was picked for the reason that it would have the ability to get to the Rockefeller area on a request basis. The pilot does regularly fly the Vermilion Bay area and has been requested to come to Calcasieu and has done so stated Mr. McInnis. In taking a look at this, Mr. McInnis commented that it may well be suited based on information that he is hearing today that this be considered part of the patrol area. The enforcement pilot is a professional pilot. A pilot, not an enforcement agent or a employee, was hired to handle the work in accordance with the procedures that had been established pointed

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out Mr. McInnis. Mr. McInnis informed the Commission that he had some questions that he would like to ask Mr. Perry.

Mr. McInnis asked Mr. Perry if anybody else had flown any of the flights. Mr. Perry answered that there has only been a couple of other people flying the plane besides him, Tommy Prickett, Leo Rodriguez and himself. Mr. McInnis stated in doing the enforcement work it was indicated that flying time was 200-300 hours and asked Mr. Perry to narrow this down. Mr. Perry explained that total time on a plane per year was about 250 hours. The figures were in the neighborhood of 40 percent of the time of those hours were enforcement oriented, 30 percent was research, and a lesser amount was for management. Many of these hours were spent after 4:00 in the afternoon and on weekend in addition to Mr. Perry's 40 hour work week. Mr. McInnis asked Mr. Perry what was his job responsibilities. Mr. Perry informed Mr. McInnis that he was a research biologist with Fur and Refuge Division, involved with some fisheries investigations, aquaculture projects such as shrimp, redfish, catfish and crawfish, work with Mr. Joanen on the alligator program and that this is a small group at Rockefeller and work very closely together. There is no pilot biologist position that currently exist in the Civil Service statute even though the federal government does have one and if there was such Mr. Perry stated that he would have put in for such a position. Mr. McInnis asked for the breakdown again. Mr. Perry stated that somewhere in the neighbor between 30-40 percent of the time was enforcement, 30-40 percent of the time was research, and then a lesser amount went to management, search and rescue, etc. Mr. McInnis asked about the different enforcement activities on the refuge specifically waterfowl. Mr. Perry explained the enforcement activities on waterfowl such as shooting ducks, baiting of areas around the refuge and have flown U.S. Fish and Wildlife personnel helping to locate these baited areas, baited dove situations. Mr. McInnis asked if there was some reason that the float plane or 210 would be unusable for these activities. Mr. Perry answered if the plane was available on a moments notice when somebody is possibly on the refuge when they should not be it would be no problem at all. A lot of times these are low overcast days and with the Cub you could check it where the pilots could not get out of Baton Rouge or possibly even New Iberia stated Mr. Perry. Mr. McInnis stated that the gill nets, etc. in the Calcasieu Lake system seem to make up the bulk of the hours in the report and asked if there were any reasons why the float plane or the 210 could not be utilized for this. Mr. Perry commented that it could be used but you have to be going fairly slow and low to locate the nets because they are sunk. The 210 will not go quite as slow as the Cub but it possibly could be used. Mr. McInnis explained that the department has recently entered into an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where they have offered to transfer through the Office of Aircraft Services A Bell 47 helicopter and asked Mr. Perry if this would be suitable. Mr. Perry stated that it would work but would be a lot more expensive than 9 gallons an hour for fuel plus you are not paying an extra pilot at Rockefeller. Mr. McInnis pointed out that the department had a pilot on staff for the helicopter.

Mr. Joanen at this time added that in the 60s' the Bell G4A was used to do the deer surveys and alligator surveys and early in the 70s' the Bell was used. This aircraft is no longer being manufactured, it is a small aircraft, is short ranged and very limited in its travel distance. The aircraft has limited capabilities pointed out Mr. Joanen and just getting the aircraft into Rockefeller could be problems at time. Mr. McInnis asked why? Mr. Joanen stated that simply because it is a slow flight ship and flies in the neighborhood of 70-75 knots with the fixed float which detracts from its performance. They have since gotten away from this craft and moved to the 206 Bell Ranger for the surveys with a little cleanup work done by the Cub. Mr. McInnis commented that he was not suggesting that the helicopter be used for the survey work and thinks Mr. Joanen is correct in that the Bell Jet Ranger does an excellent job for the surveys. They are not trying to discuss whether or not the helicopter contract be replaced but trying to figure out whether there is justification for replacing a fixed winged aircraft on site at Rockefeller and trying to find out what uses they have on site that are particular to that particular aircraft that you could not use either the 210, the Partenovia, or one of the existing aircraft that the department already has available to us stated Mr. McInnis. Mr. Joanen stated that the reason he thinks the plane is so effective is the frequency that Mr. Perry is in the air with it. This is when they are seeing the illegal activities. The 210 is not in this area that often, the Partenovia is not in this area that often, although it can be called in if they are not tied up in Baton Rouge but the frequency that Mr. Perry is in the air with these other routine jobs this is when they are running across these other illegal activities such as baits, nets, and this is the value of this little aircraft sitting on site at Rockefeller commented Mr. Joanen. Mr. McInnis asked Mr. Perry, in a brief statement, tell what is unique to this aircraft that could not be accomplished with the aircraft that he has described (210, Partenovia, float or helicopter). Mr. Perry answered having a problem in the marsh and walking away from it alive, the Cub was a slow flying airplane and was able to be set down. The 210 with the wheels up you could have slid it in. The Partenovia would have been a disaster. The helicopter could have been set down but would have been very expensive. The Cub is a low maintenance airplane and was able to bring it in with the slow flights, etc. Mr. McInnis pointed out that the enforcement uses that he has noticed in the report are predominately off of the refuge, the most hours that he is looking at are the shrimp, Calcasieu nets, etc. Mr. Perry stated it is the enforcement that made cases most of the time and the appearance of this airplane is very similar to the menhaden airplanes and as long as they were flying people did not know a 172 from a PA18 Super Cub. A lot of the shrimpers were real reluctant to come in to close as long as that plane was going. Now that it is not there they are fudging a little bit and they don't recognize an airplane with no wheels showing or one with two engines as a "pogy" plane (menhaden plane). All these menhaden planes are just like having other enforcement planes flying this coast as long as there is a small plane over here stated Mr. Perry.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. McInnis what else did he have because they have got to be moving on. Mr. McInnis advised that he had questions about the hours. Chairman Pol stated that he did not see where some of these were arriving at any conclusion and there is a meeting that has to be conducted. Chairman Pol asked if anybody else in the room had any thing to say.

Mr. Roger Vincent, representing Miami Corporation, addressed the Commission and feels the plane should be in place. If you take the 85,000 acres that the department owns, tie Miami's 160,000 to it and tie another 200,000 that surrounds it and you have half of million acre compound that certainly should justify an airplane stated Mr. Vincent. Mr. Vincent commented that Miami is not as devoted as Rockefeller is about getting around the marsh. Using airboats will scare away trespassers whereas a plane is silent. The plane is unique and available. Mr. Vincent commented that he had flown in the aircraft. Mr. McInnis asked when was this? About 2 years ago to look at Cameron-Creole advised Mr. Vincent. Mr. McInnis asked if Mr. Perry's logs would reflect this. Mr. Parry advised that he would check this out. Mr. Vincent stated that he does not think it was a joy ride on his part, Mr. Parry's part or Mr. Joanen's part. Mr. McInnis stated that this is just another policy that was apparently ignored. Mr. Vincent commented that he apologizes for this and stated that the Fur Council has requested that these funds be used for the aircraft.

Mr. Parry informed the Commission that he was incomplete in one of the answers that he gave a few minutes ago and added that in addition to the certifications and so forth he has been certified in the use of Loran and it has been held up in court as an expert witness.

Chairman Pol stated that if there are no more comments to be made one way or the other he would entertain motion from Mr. McCall or anyone else. Mr. McCall made a motion that whatever it takes be done to get the airplane back into the possession of the department, use the insurance money available and go ahead and use the alligator money that is left over to get this plane repaired and returned to Rockefeller. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hines. Chairman Pol stated that on this particular motion for the Commission to be polled and asked Ms. Baker to call role

Ms. Baker stated that she would like to just make one statement. Chairman Pol advised that the discussion is over with. Ms. Baker stated that she would just like to say that Secretary Van Sickle is in concurrence with this. Chairman Pol stated that he does not think this is a question of whether Secretary Van Sickle is in concurrence or not but thinks it is a question for the Board and Secretary Van Sickle has got to do what the Board tells her to do.

Ms. Baker then polled the Commission, voting as follows:

Mr. Houston Foret - Yes

Dr. Don Hines - Yes
Mr. Jimmy Jenkins - No
Mr. Bert Jones - No
Mr. Norman McCall - Yes
Mr. Pete Vujnovich - No

Mr. Vujnovich stated that the plane is 22 years old and is it worth the money to spend; he is opposing to spending the money for the plane.

The vote being 3 to 3 Chairman Pol broke the tie by voting yes. The motion passed with a vote of 4 yes and 3 no. Chairman Poll advised that the Commission directs the administration to do whatever is necessary to put this airplane back into service.

Dr. Hines asked Mr. McCall if for some reason the department could find an airplane for the amount of money that it would cost to repair this one and it be in better shape and could get it quicker, would this be satisfactory. Mr. McCall asked Dr. Hines to repeat the question. Dr. Hines pointed out that in other words it is going to be \$35,000 to repair the plane plus it might cost a few thousands to get it back so if a used plane could be found that is in good shape for this amount of money would this acceptable to Mr. McCall rather than repairing the plane. Mr. McCall stated that would be acceptable to him and would probably get one quicker that way.

policy Chairman Pol advised then the instructions to the administration would be to either repair or replace, whichever is the more *we* feasible.

Mr. Jones asked if the department is going to change its aircraft policy, how the aircraft are used, or they going to ~~the~~ adhere to the Wildlife and Fisheries new ~~pilot~~? Chairman Pol stated that it is a matter for the administration to enforce their policy.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Ron Dugas gave a **Report on the 1990-91 Oyster Season**. A summarization of the resolution and declaration of emergency was given by Mr. Dugas.

Mr. Dugas reported that it was the time of year when the oyster season has to be set on the public oyster grounds and for a matter of definition "public oyster grounds" being those areas that the general public has access to, not to the areas that are set aside for leasing. In Louisiana there is some 2 million acres and Mr. Dugas pointed out the hatched areas on a map. With the exception of Calcasieu Lake and Sabine Lake, all the oyster grounds have been surveyed, the basic results being pretty well down in production. There is a limited resource available on virtually all the grounds. Two concepts have been looked at by the department. Delaying the season a little bit because it would be better for oyster relaying, when you move in the summer time you run into problems with heat and mortality and also the fact if you do go directly to commercial marketing there is a lower yield. After several discussions with

several of the industry groups the department is going to recommend to the Commission (in the resolution) that it set the oyster season on October 3 on all the public grounds except the Sabine Lake area, Calcasieu area. The time frame for Sabine/Calcasieu is in November and the department has time to look at this area. Also with the exception is Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation, ~~reservations being those areas that can be rotated on a yearly basis~~, which was fished last year, and will be closed this year. On all the remaining grounds it is recommended that the seasons be set one-half hour before sunrise on October 3, 1990, with the 3 small reservations also opening on October 3 (Bay Gardene, Hackberry Bay and Sister Lake) and close in 10 days. The remaining hatched area with the exception of Bay Junop and the two bays in that area would remain open, according to law, April 1, 1991. There is a stipulation in the resolution which allows the Secretary the authority to close an area if there is significant spat catch which is a recruitment to the population; mortality in any one of these grounds; and mere fact that fishermen would be fishing for shell purpose only.

The resolution and declaration of emergency were presented to the Commission for action.

A motion was made by Mr. Vujnovich that the Commission accept the resolution and declaration of emergency because the majority of the oyster people, at least 90 percent, are in favor of this. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION

1990 Oyster Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
August , 1990 - Rockefeller Refuge

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the public oyster seed grounds may be opened from the Wednesday following Labor Day until April 2, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the public oyster seed grounds and oyster seed reservations have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation have been determined, and

WHEREAS, it has been customary in some cases to rotate the opening of the season on the oyster seed reservation when biologically feasible, and

WHEREAS, since quantities of oysters are limited and increased effort in confined areas can cause higher mortality

levels when water temperatures are high, leading to depletion of the resources, and

WHEREAS, recent research indicates an increase in yield may be gained if oysters are planted in high salinity water during periods when the water temperatures have begun to cool, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission does hereby set the season on the public oyster seed grounds in accordance with the Declaration of Emergency which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that at this time no managerial action is recommended for the Calcasieu and Sabine Lake tonging areas, and these seasons will be addressed at a subsequent Commission meeting.

Warren I. Pol, Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

(The full text of the declaration of
of emergency is made a part of the
record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953 (B) and 967, and under the authority of R.S. 56:433 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, hereby declares:

1. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the public oyster seed grounds and the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will open 1/2 hour before sunrise October 3, 1990.
2. The 1990/91 Oyster Season on the Hackberry Bay, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservations will close 1/2 hour after sunset October 12, 1990.
3. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring, or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival.

4. The Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation will remain closed for the 1990/91 Oyster Season.
5. Oyster bedding will not be allowed in sacks or any other type of container, but will consist of shoveling back on the deck of the vessel.
6. The notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action.

This declaration of emergency is effective October 3, 1990.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

Dr. Jerry Clark presented the **Black Drum Rule for Ratification** at Friday's meeting. Mr. Clark advised that this was the final rule on black drum limits, daily take possession limits, quotas, special permit requirements. The notice of intent was passed at least 3 months ago and was published in the Louisiana register. There have been no written or verbal comments received from the public. The only thing received was a resolution that was passed by the legislature asking the Commission to implement one management measure, that is already a part of the package, ~~early~~ which was the 16 inch minimum size limit and at the last Commission meeting this was done. Dr. Clark stated that all the Commission needs to do today is adopt the final rule. *and*

Chairman Pol stated that this rule has been discussed on several occasions and asked if the groups have approved it. Dr. Clark advised that there were public hearings and at ~~there~~ hearings yes there was uniform support of this. *is those*

Chairman Pol asked for a motion that the Commission adopt the black drum criteria. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins that the Commission accept the black drum final rule. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the rule is made
a part of the record)

Rule

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries
Part VII. Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 311. Black Drum Size Limits, Daily Take and Possession Limits, Quotas and Special Permit Requirements.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations for the taking of black drum (Pogonias cromis):

The daily take and possession limit for black drum caught recreationally within or without Louisiana waters shall be five (5) fish per day and in possession.

The minimum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be sixteen (16) inches total length.

The maximum legal size for the recreational or commercial taking of black drum shall be twenty-seven (27) inches total length; provided however that recreational fishermen shall be allowed to take and possess one black drum per day over twenty-seven inches. It is provided further that commercial fishermen, when in possession of a "Special Black Drum Permit", shall be allowed to take and possess black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches in unlimited quantities until the annual quota has been met.

The annual commercial quota for sixteen (16) to twenty-seven (27) inch black drum shall be 3,250,000 pounds.

The annual commercial quota for black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches shall be 300,000.

The fishing year for black drum shall begin on September 1, 1990 and every September 1st thereafter.

A "Special Black Drum Permit" shall be annually required for persons commercially taking black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches and each "Special Black Drum Permit" holder shall on or before the tenth of each month make a return to the department on forms provided or approved for the purpose, the number of black drum over twenty-seven (27) inches taken commercially during the preceding month.

Once the black drum commercial quota(s) has been met; the purchase, barter, trade or sale of black drum taken in Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. The commercial taking or landing of black drum in Louisiana, whether caught within or without the territorial waters of Louisiana after the closure is prohibited. Nothing in this rule shall be deemed to prohibit the possession of fish legally taken prior to the closure order.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall, by public notice, close the commercial fishery(s) for

black drum when the quota(s) has been met or is projected to be met. The closure shall not take effect for at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice to public.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Sections 6(10), 326.1 and 326.3 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 56:6(10)326.1, 326.3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (August 1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

X Mr. Bob Dennie presented a **Resolution for National Hunting and Fishing day, September 22, 1990** to the Commissioners at Friday's meeting. Mr. Dennie pointed out that Commission member, Mr. Bert Jones, was National Honorary Chairman of National Hunting and Fishing Day in 1976. This year the National Honorary Chairman is Mr. Robert Urich and the theme is "We are Aiming to Help One on One". Mr. Dennie asked the Commission to proclaim September 22, 1990 as Louisiana's National Hunting and Fishing Day which will help in secure the rich American tradition of hunting and fishing and to also insure a healthy future for the sport that so many of the citizens enjoy and presented Chairman Pol with the resolution for his signature.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion that they accept the resolution proclaiming September 22, 1990 as Louisiana's National Hunting and Fishing Day. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

LA'S NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition, and

WHEREAS, since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation program. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the funding of state fish and game departments in all fifty states. They asked that they, themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the

money collected be used to support state conservation agencies; in the last fifty years alone, these sportsmen have provided \$2.5 billion for conservation programs, and

WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulated seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding population. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were fifty years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development, and

WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans, and

WHEREAS, through their publications and organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, Izzak Walton League of America and many others, hunters and fishermen have led the nation in the battle for a better environment and the wise use of our natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission here by proclaiming September 22, 1990, as National Hunting and Fishing Day in Louisiana. The Commission urges all of our citizens to join with the sportsmen-conservationists in a rededication to the wise use of our natural resources and their proper management for the benefit of future generations. Further, the Commission urges all citizens to take part in National Hunting and Fishing Day activities on September 22, 1990, to learn more about conservation and outdoor skills.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

At Friday's meeting a **Progress Report on Aquatic Education and Results of Free Fishing Day** were given by Mr. Paul Jackson. Mr. Dennie introduced Mr. Jackson to the Commission and advised that Mr. Jackson was the Aquatic Education Program Coordinator from Lake Charles. Mr. Jackson is assigned the duties of generating the Aquatic Education Program which is going to be very similar to the Hunter Education Program in that volunteers will be utilized to get the program off the ground. Mr. Dennie believes that this program

is going to be the necessary ground work that is needed to save the fisheries in the state by educating the young people as to the resource, not only how to fish but also why we fish, why creel limits are set and also why we must save our habitat.

Mr. Jackson informed the Commissioners that aquatic education is a new program in the Education Section of the department. The program is 75 percent federally funded and 25 percent state funded through the D-J funds as amended by Wallop-Breaux in 1985. Wallop-Breaux allowed states, if they wished, to use up to 10 percent of the Wallop-Breaux allocation for aquatic education which Louisiana elected to do in 1988. The program began in November 1988 but no one was assigned to the program until April 1989 when Mr. Jackson was appointed Coordinator. The program officially started in July, 1989. From April 1989 to the beginning of July 1989, time was spent looking at programs in other states and developing a program for use in Louisiana and also writing the federal project narrative for the program. The 25 percent state match comes from in-kind match which means that volunteer's time is utilized to reach this match. Every hour of documented time a volunteer spends on the program is equivalent to \$11.00 in state funds so therefore the program is used with volunteer time and federal aid money and therefore use no real state money for the program explained Mr. Jackson. There was nothing available in the state as far as aquatic education and during the first year the following was accomplished. Developed a guide for volunteers on how to put on a workshop. Worked with the Louisiana Conservationist on developing a poster and set it up as a center in the calendar issue of the July-August Conservationist 1989. Mr. Jackson then had 2,500 reprints made for use of the volunteers in the program. A brochure was developed that explains the basics of the program. An identification guide to common sport fish of Louisiana was developed and printed. This guide will be updated this year into a smaller version which can be carried easier and also enhance the graphics more. Approximately 25 instructors' workshops with church groups, youth organizations and sportsmen's clubs and over 200 volunteers have been trained as clinic instructors; have assisted with Project Wild an Aquatic Wild facilitator and teacher workshops; have developed an instructor and student manual to be used in the public and private schools in the state to teach aquatic education and these manuals should be in-house by next week; have incorporated LSU Sea Grants Wild Louisiana Program which is a program that was developed by Lyle Sonnier with Sea Grant to where it gets the class involved in making decisions on use of the coastal wetlands and explains the loss of coastal wetlands to students and also the things that can be done to prevent it. Mr. Sonnier also developed a presentation on the red fish and one on the management of the red fish, each having a video tape to enhance the program. The development of an education center has begun in Woodworth, Louisiana. Eighteen acres of land and 3 buildings have been obtained from the Office of Forestry through a land swap. The education center will consist of a rifle range, fishing pond and the 3 building will be converted into an education center. The center will be used to conduct hunter

education, aquatic education workshops for teachers and volunteers and also to serve as a location to conduct fishing clinics as well as hunting related activities for the people in central Louisiana advised Mr. Jackson and added that these facilities will be funded through federal aid, the in-kind match will come from the value of the land and the value of the buildings. The project agreement has already been sent to the feds and expect to receive word back shortly. The work that will be done on the buildings and the range will be done by the Louisiana National Guard. Mr. Jackson advised that a handicapped program is starting to be incorporated with the schools through what they called Adapted P.E. where you go in and work with the teachers that teach Adapted P.E. to incorporate a little bit about fishing into their program. In Beauregard and Acadia Parishes aquatic education helped a Adapted P.E. program by sponsoring a fishing clinic. During fishing week the program became involved with the Association of Louisiana Bass Clubs Youth Fishing Tournament as a co-sponsor. There were 9 of these tournaments conducted statewide on the Saturday of the 2 free fishing days with about 1,800 youngsters participating. Aquatic Education sponsors or co-sponsors 13 fishing clinics during National Fishing Week and 2 of these were co-sponsored with the U.S. Forest Service. There were approximately 1,500 individuals attending the fishing clinics during the free fishing days. The largest clinic was conducted in Bossier City on the Cypress Black Lake Recreation Area and co-sponsored with the Bossier City Baptist Church, Bossier City Recreation Department and Cypress Black Lake Recreation Commission. There were 450 kids, 200 adults and 65 trained adults as volunteers at the clinic. Plans for the upcoming year center on getting into the schools advised Mr. Jackson. The manuals will be ready and school workshops will be conducted. Other plans are to revise the I.D. publication; a paper vinyl covered ruler with an adhesive back that can be used by sport fishermen showing the different size categories for fish and also list size restrictions and limits on sport fish; develop a student activity publication for use by teachers in grades K-5 to stimulate interest in the younger kids in sport fishing; review publications that are out of print and try to slowly get some back in to circulation. Upon conclusion Mr. Jackson asked if there were any questions.

Chairman Pol stated that the Commission would like to commend Mr. Dennie and Mr. Jackson for doing a good job on this program.

At Friday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark gave the **Marine Finfish Freeze Report**. Dr. Clark stated that this report was on the agenda for the joint meeting in Texas but due to illness he was not able to prepare the report and edit it. Dr. Clark apologized for the lateness of the report.

Dr. Clark reported that there were 2 parts of the report to be given today. The first part includes some statistical analysis of the monitoring data that was done and will go through May. Mr. John Roussel will give the second part of the report and stated that the department has been unable to do any significant analysis

since the May data. Only one report has been received for July so there is only complete data beyond this for the month of June stated Dr. Clark. The department has not been able to do any additional statistical analysis of this data and Mr. Roussel can explain how long it takes to get the data and why we are where we are explained Dr. Clark.

Dr. Clark informed the Commissioners that the report they have in front of them is basically the January through May data and asked that they turn to Appendix I pointing out that what has been done is that each of the three principle gear that is used (bag seines, gill nets and trammel nets) have been looked at for red drum and spotted seatrout for each month for 3 areas. The state has been divided into 3 zones which are east of the Mississippi River, between the Mississippi and the Atchafalaya, and west of the Atchafalaya and analyzed the data by these 3 zones. Dr. Clark pointed out that as they go through this they will find that it takes 5 pages for each zone for each species for each of those five months and proceeded to explain what the package contained and some of the work that had been done. Basically what is trying to be done is to find out whether or not the freeze year was different from any other year advised Dr. Clark. On the surface this sounds correct and easy and also sound like you would get a lot of information out of this but the problem is that in the January through May period there are relatively low catches in all years of red drum and spotted seatrout in all of the gears pointed out Dr. Clark. This is just not the right time, in the gear, to see these species. The right time varies by species and right now the June, July, August, September period is the period for spotted seatrout whereas the fall period, September, October, November is when you will see more catches of red drum. Dr. Clark then gave examples of catch rates and pointed out that statistically no difference can be detected in those years between the highest year and the lowest year. Summarizing what the data represents Dr. Clark stated that in particular the data says a lot about what the department has always been saying since the beginning when the first assessments were done. The data indicates that the number of fish that the department encountered in its gear declined as you move eastward. It was said from the beginning that the effects of the freeze appeared to be greater as you moved east. This data also seems to indicate this stated Dr. Clark. As we moved towards the east fewer red drum and spotted seatrout are encountered in the department's gear and in many cases and many instances with all the saddle sets that were taken none of these animals were caught during January through May commented Dr. Clark.

Dr. Clark went on to comment that in the western zone, west of the Atchafalaya the generalization is not true. In many of the cases the data west of the river for red drum and spotted seatrout falls somewhere in the middle and in a couple of the pages, a couple of the zones and in a couple of the months it is the best data that the department has had. Dr. Clark informed the Commission that he is having to look at the data and draw out the broad generalizations that are in the data to give to the Commissioners.

The department will be able to do a lot better, statistically, analyzing the data for June, July, August, and September because the catch rates in that time period, in the same gears that were deployed through January-May, often is 10 times what it is in January-May. If you look at January-May for the last four years pointed out Dr. Clark normal catch rates are only a tenth for spotted seatrout during the January through May period of what they are from the June through September period in the same gears in the same places.

Mr. McCall asked how is the gear deployed? Dr. Clark answered that the gear is deployed in almost every form from the beach inside; other words in near shore areas. None are done off the beach, some are done on the beach, but none are done in the Gulf and there are none done in the deep water areas of the bays or lakes. Shore sampling is what is done stated Dr. Clark. Almost no sampling is done in very shallow open marsh areas where the water is only a foot or two deep. These are basically beach areas from the beach inside in relatively shallow water and distributed throughout the coast. There are none in Lake Pontchartrain unless there are some for the Carnavor monitoring, very few in Lake Borgne, they pick up south of Lake Borgne and throughout the rest of the coast. In Calcasieu there are 6 sites and in Barataria and Terrebonne there are many more Dr. Clark informed the group.

Mr. McCall stated if you have 6 sites in Calcasieu then what would be the next site coast wise, east or west? It would be at Southwest Pass and basically a series of north-south transects answered Mr. Roussel.

Dr. Clark asked Mr. John Roussel to address the Commission. Mr. Roussel stated that unfortunately he does not have a lot more to add since May. There has been June data that has been looked at, but not in detail because it had to be looked at in the aggregate ~~type of~~ form. One thing Dr. Clark did not mention that was in the report is that it actually gives catches not only of spotted seatrout but different sizes of spotted seatrout so that you actually can look at catch of a 1 year old or a 12 inch spotted seatrout versus past years, versus catch of 2 years olds, etc. advised Mr. Roussel. The additional information that Mr. Roussel can give for June is aggregate form and is total catch per effort of spotted seatrout. For the sake of consistency Mr. Roussel presented the information based on the 3 zones that Dr. Clark outlined. In zone 1, east of the river, the June catch per effort was average and fell right in the mean of the last 5 years. In the central part of the state it also was average but one of the unique things about the central part or Zone 2 was that the catches on the beaches in Zone 2 were higher than they have been over the last 5 years. Appears from the samples that the distribution of the fish this year appears to be different from what it has been in past years. West of the Atchafalaya River which includes Vermilion Bay and the Calcasieu area the June catches were below average. However, you look at July (information for only Calcasieu Lake area and east of the river) and the Calcasieu Lake in July were the

highest catches ever. You have gone from a month where you are below average to the following month where there is the highest catch ever. East of the river in July the catch per effort was slightly below average. The picture east of the river for the 2 months span, June and July, shows an average catch in June and a below average catch in July. The central part of the state, with only June data, an average catch overall with a highest catch ever in the beach stations indicating that you had some distortion in the distribution of the fish in the central part of the state. In Calcasieu Lake it went from a below average catch in June to the highest catch ever in the past 6 year in July. Another important piece of information that Mr. Roussel has been looking for ever since the freeze was an indication of what the spawn would be this year. One of the things that field crews do when they take fish is to classify, gravid or running ripe, them so they can get an indication as to when these fish spawn. An ideal situation when you have had a good salty year you will be get a April spawn spotted seatrout in coastal Louisiana and when there is a April spawn it tends to be a overall good year class for spotted seatrout advised Mr. Roussel and stated that this year in their field observations they did not notice any gravid or running ripe females until mid-May which is a preliminary indication that there was not an April spawn. However, in June in the bag seines, spotted seatrout younger than a year were picked up that have had to been April spawned fish because they were to big to be May spawn fish. There is some evidence that there may have been an April spawn in the Gulf and if you remember what Dr. Clark said there is no sampling in the Gulf because of the water depth and physical constraints advised Mr. Roussel. How good a spawn in April it was is still to early to tell and what effect on the survival of that spawn or how different the survival of that spawn may be because of the fact that the spawned in the Gulf as opposed to spawning in the estuaries is still a question but still encouraging commented Mr. Roussel. Another piece of information, which is not included in the report but is considered an in-house report, is that department personnel went back and looked at fishery dependent data which is the data collected on the fishermen. The 1983 freeze was reviewed to see just what happened to fishermen's catches. This cannot be done for this years freeze because there is a years lag in collecting the data. It was found out that immediately following the 1983 freeze fishermen's catches were low, effort by fishermen was low and catch per effort were low and remained low until the fall of 1984 at which time it returned back to normal and in 1985 Louisiana had one of the best years on record. This is not to say that the same pattern will follow through but to give you some indication in 1984, the year immediately following the 1983 freeze, the estimate of the total recreational catch of spotted seatrout was 1.2 million fish which is a little over 2.2 million pounds of fish. The 10 year average catch is 5.3 million. In 1985 the total catch was 4.5 million and in 1986 it was 10.5 million which was way above any of the others years. The next closes year was down at 7 million. Mr. Roussel explained that again this is 1983 and there is a lot of hypnosis that can be put forth as to explain this and how the freeze affected the fishery. This

information, pointed out again by Mr. Roussel, that is being covered is totally separate from which is contained in the report which is fishery independent. There are a lot of things that influence a fisherman's catch other than the number of fish in the water. Mr. Roussel asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Roussel if he was concerned about the spotted seatrout fishery? Mr. Roussel answered at this point in time the data that is available actually through July he was not concerned and believes the key indicator, as far as the data will show for spotted seatrout, is the time period of April, May, June, July and August. If it was a salty year you could throw the March date in but this year there was not a salty year and salinity has a great influence in that early spring time commented Mr. Roussel. There is no great indication that things are abnormal with spotted seatrout. The key time for red drum is September, October, November and December and the department does not even have that data yet. From the scientific information that Mr. Roussel has in front of him he is not overly alarmed. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Roussel why he thought it took a couple of extra months to catch a commercial quota after the freeze. Mr. Roussel stated that it could have been the fact that there was the freeze and there is no doubt that there was some mortality from the freeze. There is also no doubt that the distribution of the fish was drastically affected. Mr. Jenkins advised that when they went to the Texas meeting Texas gave a comparison of the 1983 freeze and the freeze this year and basically said it was as bad as 1983. They were concerned enough to change the bag limits or the size limits on the recreational fish and here Louisiana is saying there is nothing wrong over here stated Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Roussel commented that he is not saying that nothing is wrong and hopes this is not the impression he is giving. The Commissioners stated that this is the impression they are getting. Mr. Roussel stated that the Commission asked him to give them his opinion and was answering from a standpoint of whether he thought the Commission or department had to jump and take action right now. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Roussel how long did it take him to get the data and get back and look at it. There will be at least a month's lag advised Mr. Roussel. Mr. Vujnovich advised that he had been out and had seen plenty of trout but they were small. Mr. Roussel offered the invitation to the Commissioners that he is willing to sit personally or collectively with them and go through the report in detail. Mr. Jenkins asked if any creel surveys were being done this summer. Mr. Roussel stated that they have scheduled to try and do a one weekend survey but have not selected the date. The department does not have the manpower to have an ongoing creel survey but the one weekend creel survey is being planned for the same weekend that Texas is conducting theirs. The survey will have to be done at least by early September.

Chairman Pol stated that what he does not understand is that the Commission goes to Texas, who has all their preparations made and informs Louisiana that the freeze was a catastrophe; in Louisiana this has never been said yet Chairman Pol has personally seeing

away

fish up and down the bayou dead; Texas changes things right ~~of way~~ but in Louisiana they are saying there is plenty of fish; we go out and fish and catch only 2 fish. Chairman Pol advised that he had sent Mr. Mike Cook 2 articles out of the Houston papers a couple of weeks ago and both of the Sports Editors for the large Houston papers say that the speckled trout business over there is a catastrophe and that something has to be done and yet here is Louisiana 1 month away from having the gill net season and the Commission is being told that there is nothing wrong. Chairman Pol stated that he just does not understand and Mr. Roussel says he is not telling the Commissioner there is nothing wrong but the way he hears him talking you are telling them there is something wrong. Mr. Roussel stated that he can only base his statements on the data that he has available to him. Chairman Pol asked if they took into consideration the data that was received from fishermen because there were a bunch of people right there that fished and they will tell they are not catching any fish.

Deputy Secretary McInnis commented that if he remembers correctly and perhaps Chairman Pol, Mr. Jenkins or Mr. McCall could help him remember, Texas also had a February freeze ~~leading-up-before~~ *reckoning* that which they took into consideration in their calculations which Louisiana did not have. Chairman Pol stated that they had also said that was not catastrophic like the deep freeze they had. Mr. Jenkins stated that his recollection that they did have it separated on a chart and the combination of those 2 freezes were probably worst than the 1983-84 freeze either one of them might have been slightly less than the 1983 freeze but they considered each of the freezes bad and the year as a whole very bad. Chairman Pol commented that it was just his personal opinion that if they open the season and the fish are really as decimated, as he feels like they are, and really get into a lot of trouble because all the fish they are catching now are the ones that get through the gill nets then there will be some ~~reckoning~~ as far as Chairman Pol is concerned. Dr. Clark stated that as he understands it that 2 things have happened in Texas. They had the 1983 freeze and they had the most recent freeze. If they are going to say that they had a catastrophe this year their total response to date of their catastrophe this year is that they have increased a minimum size limit on spotted seatrout by 1 inch. This is not fair in some respects but it is a fact stated Dr. Clark. Chairman Pol stated that they do not have to make a response because they do not have gill net season over there, this is a sports fish over there and explained that what is beginning to worry him is that in one month a season will open on the nets and if Louisiana is in trouble what is going to happen? Chairman Pol commented that he realizes that we cannot compare Texas, but on the other hand we cannot compare Texas with the loss that Louisiana got because of the gill net season which Texas does not have. Texas does not need to worry as much as Louisiana does because they are not going to, within a month, net these fish. Dr. Clark stated that he is not sure that this is entirely a fair characterization of the situation either because a spotted seatrout does not care who kills it if it is dead and what is important for biology is how many dead spotted seatrout

there are. Dr. Clark stated that there is another thing going on that he would like to comment on. There was a freeze and there was a lot of dead spotted seatrout and the information that the department has is the information that they have and it is all the information that they have. It is scientific information and like all other scientific information there are type 1 and type 2 statistical errors, you reach a conclusion and there is a possibility that you are wrong one way or another. It is possible that the freeze had a greater impact on spotted seatrout than the department has been able to detect but what Mr. Roussel has said, and Dr. Clark agrees, is that the department has the data that they have and that is all that they have and they have to reach conclusions on the basis of this. Another issue that has not been discussed are the tools that are available to deal with the situation. If the legislature in Louisiana treated red drum and spotted trout like they treat all other species, in other words gave this Commission authority to make changes in, things like bag limits, commercial quotas, minimum size limits, Dr. Clark believes that he would be before the Commission today with perhaps a set of recommendations that on a preliminary basis some of these might be put in place for a year to reduce the risk, but this cannot be done because the legislature says the department and Commission cannot do this. The only thing that the department and Commission can do is to use their blunt instrument and close the fishery but with the data that Dr. Clark has in his hands, right now, he is not recommending closing the fishery. Mr. Jenkins asked what would it take to make Dr. Clark recommend this closure and when. Dr. Clark advised that what he would like to do is get the rest of the information from the summer, June, July, August and September data, and if that data is different than what is in front of them today and if the spotted sea trout does not show up in the summer data and the red drum do not come up in the fall data then Dr. Clark will be one of the first people to come back to the Commission and recommend that they close the fishery. Mr. Jenkins commented that as soon as it can be determined that things are bad with the spotted seatrout the Commission should do something immediately on the seatrout. Mr. Jenkins asked if the Commission had the authority to do something separate as far as the emergencies are concerned on the spotted seatrout and red drum or do they have to be kept together. It was determined that they do not have to be kept together. Mr. Jenkins explained that what he was saying was if it is determined next month that the spotted seatrout are in trouble to the extent that it should be totally closed (recreational, commercial and the whole business) it should be done separately and apart from red fish which there may not be any information on until November or December. Mr. Jenkins stated that he for one would like, and if it is necessary put it in the form of a resolution, that the department does this and that they stay on top of this and get reports as soon as they can. Dr. Clark advised that he and Mr. Roussel were talking about this the other day and it would probably take at least 2 weeks after the end of each month to get all the data off of field sheets on to the computer and in Baton Rouge. This is a lot of data, there is a lot of sets and is all over the state. With full-time on this it would

take at least a week after this to do the analysis advised Dr. Clark. The June and July information would be ready for the September Commission meeting and there might be some portion of the August data in hands but as far as getting any statistics analysis there would be none. Dr. Hines what percentage of the 1.25 million pounds of speckled trout are caught in September by the commercial fishermen. Mr. Roussel stated that he does not have that information available but basically the commercial catch goes like this: When it opens in September they make some fairly good catches but begins dropping off October, November, December, and January. The bulk of the quota is caught the following spring. Dr. Hines commented that no major catastrophe will happen by the amount of fish caught in the early part. Mr. Roussel stated the normal distribution of the catches would indicate. Mr. Jenkins stated unless those are the only ones left. The data indicates that the largest catch would be in February, March and April. Mr. Vujnovich advised that the water is still very sweet in the Barataria Bay estuary and he is hearing people say that in the Gulf there is an abundance of speckled trout and red fish. Mr. Foret was asked what his assessment was on this. Mr. Foret commented that it would be kind of a shame as it is ready for the commercial to open. If something needed to be done Mr. Foret believed it should have been done in April or May during spawning. Mr. Foret is at Coco Marina almost every day of the week and they have about 5 or 6 fishermen over there. On some days they make their limit and on some days they just catch 2 or 3 specks. Mr. Foret stated that this year was an unusual year from what he has seen. Every year that you see a lot of shrimp you will catch less speckled trout or less any kind of fish and out in the water right now you have better for them to feed on what you can give them and this has a lot to do with this in Mr. Foret opinion. Mr. Jenkins stated that the freeze happened in December, the speckled trout commercial quota went on until May and he does not think it is a matter of shutting down commercial or recreational or anything else. Mr. Jenkins has talked to sporting people and he has not had the first one to tell him that it is anywhere close to normal. Mr. Foret agreed with Mr. Jenkins that it was way below normal and stated that there was big fish kill, a lot bigger than what people want to recognize. Mr. Jones stated that what Mr. Foret just said is the answer that he wants to hear. That there has been a tremendous fish kill and it needs to be measure so that the resource can be protected so that next year there will be plenty to catch and the year after that, etc. Let's not exhaust the resource if it is in trouble, established this and let's go commented Mr. Jones. Mr. Foret stated that there was more damage made with the one week freeze in December and early January than all the commercial fishermen, all the sports fishermen did in 5 years. Mr. Jones stated that this needs to be assess as the issue.

Mr. Jenkins stated that in light of the facts that everybody at the meeting is concerned and if the Commission had the opportunity just like Dr. Clark explained there would be some changes made today but since there is not the opportunity the Commission is forced with drastic measures of either saying it is on or it is off whereas it

and have
may not be drastic enough to cut it off he made the motion that the Commission instruct Dr. Clark to report as timely as possible and as soon as possible on the catch situation of the spotted seatrout and red drum. The full Commission agreed with Mr. Jenkins motion. Dr. Clark stated that all of the members of the Marine Fisheries Division who have supervisory responsibilities to make sure that the wishes of the Commission are carried out are attending this meeting heard you and he heard you and will to the extent possible accelerate the data collection, data handling, analysis and will prepare for each of the succeeding Commission meetings the data that is in hand at that time. Chairman Pol reiterated to those attending the meeting it is not the attentions of the Commission to differentiate between sports fishing and commercial fishing. The Commission is only worried about one thing and that is the quality and quantity of the speckled trout. If it is not there it is going to hurt both sides pointed out Chairman Pol and are not saying what is fair and what is not fair only saying that if the fish are not there action should be taken. *intention*

Dr. Clark commented that he would like to make one point and reiterate a point that he has made. If the Commission had different tools at its disposal Dr. Clark, today, would be making recommendations to reduce the harvest. The Commission and Secretary do not have these tools and the only tools that they have is to close the fishery stated Dr. Clark and this tool he is not recommending the Commission exercise. Chairman Pol advised that they understood this. *we*

has been collected
A Recap of the 1989-90 Budget Year and 1990-91 Budget Forecast was presented at Friday's meeting by Ms. Bettsie Baker. Mr. Baker advised that she was passing out 2 separate documents that will be explained and budgeting in state government is very different from private enterprise. Mr. Baker reviewed the sheet on revenue comparisons which showed year to year various sources of revenue to the department. The Conservation Fund came in right on target as was expected at about \$22 million dollars. The Rockefeller Refuge Fund came in way, way, way low and had originally projected \$3.2 million dollars in mineral income but year to date ~~that have~~ \$948,000 which is less than one-third of what was in the budget. In the budget process a reasonable rational budget process has been implemented but starts in October. Everything has to be submitted to the Budget Office in December so revenue forecast is done base on historical trends and prior year data and at that time there was no information as to what would be forthcoming in the current fiscal year explained Ms. Baker. This put the Fur and Refuge Division in a very difficult position because their primary source of funds is Rockefeller money and when you get one-third of what is expected it creates some problems not only for the refuge but also for other individuals in the Office of Wildlife because of how budgets are prepared. Going on down the line, Ms. Baker pointed out that the next line item was interest income off of the Rockefeller Trust Fund and does not want the Commission to misunderstand its representation. It is income to the department but as a results of laws enacted 2 years ago the department does *only*

not have access to the interest income with certain exceptions. It is used for land acquisition of wetlands and uplands; dedications to the Rockefeller Scholarship Fund; McNeese University continues, through this year, to receive \$350,000 of this income to the department which is use to be able to spend but when the law came into effect to raise the trust fund from \$20 million to \$30 million there was a prohibition on the department for operations ~~to take it~~; Marsh Island Refuge Fund has slipped in years but has stabilized about \$250,000 to \$300,000 in income and likewise the Marsh Island interest income, both funds 1 and 2, is not available to the department for the same purposes that these funds are being increased from \$5 million to \$10 million dollars. The total income received for the department, year to date, about \$33.8 million dollars and approximately \$30 million dollars has been available to support departmental operations.

use of the money for routine

Ms. Baker reviewed the sheet giving the historical tracking and future presentation and pointed out that the first column on the left is actual performance from 1988-89. The department is divided into 3 operating units which are: 1) Office of Secretary which encompasses Support Service, Law Enforcement, I&E, Marketing Board and Fur and Alligator Council, 2) Office of Wildlife which encompasses Game Division, Habitat Conservation and Fur and Refuge Division, 3) Office of Fisheries is Saltwater Fisheries and Freshwater Fisheries. Fiscal year 1989-90 the department had a budget of about \$38.5 million dollars and of this in terms of actual expenditures the department spent approximately \$35 million dollars. There was only \$30 million in incoming revenue and approximately \$5 million that carried forward from the year before principally as a result of shell dredging revenue because of the change in the shell royalty rate there was significant surplus year to year but the department does not anticipate that this surplus will carry forward. Ms. Baker stated that the department was fairly well on target, year to year, and expenditures, year to year. Moving to budget 1990-91 the department has tried to come forward with reasonable budget expectations and expect this to be o.k. with the one exception of Rockefeller. It is presumed that this past year's mineral income problem will continue into the existing year that the department is in and all years forward. The wells are very old and the gas market is very bad thus production is very low advised Ms. Baker. Approximately \$2 million dollars of the Conservation Fund will be carried forward and goes to support activities in the forthcoming year and in addition to this the department has a couple of new expenses that are not really reflected in this report that will have to be absorbed, some of which the department will get help with commented Ms. Baker and explained that the Governor has put in place 3 different pieces of activity that significantly affects salaries. One is an adjustment to long-term Civil Service employees who have received no benefits as result of a change in the Civil Service system that was enacted on July 1, 1987 and about one-third of department employees will have a salary increases as a result. There was a 4 percent cost of living increase that was imposed on top of this which will affect every employee as well some market grade adjustments in the

computer areas because statewide there has been trouble as a state with the Civil Service system of getting people in the computer ranks. The impact of this will be approximately an additional \$1 million dollars in expenses on top of the proposed budget explained Mr. Baker and of this additional \$1 million dollars in expenditures the department has requested General Fund money and have been promised a portion of this somewhere in the neighborhood of \$400,000 - \$500,000 with the department carrying the balance. *we* *certainty* *has*

Ms. Baker pointed out that in the Office of Secretary, particularly in Enforcement, moving forward from 1989-90 to 1990-91 a law passed, HB 1265, which makes a change in how Class 1 Violations are handled. Historically Class 1 Violations have gone through the District Attorney's office for processing, prosecution, payment, etc. The law changed this from going to the District Attorney's office to being handled administratively by the department, if people so choose, wherein a civil penalty would be remitted back to the department based on whether it is a first offense, second offense, third offense. This change enabled the department to add 18 new enforcement people, 2 per region, on roll and will move it up to 246 people in enforcement. The department has an obligation for these positions and it will be very interesting to see what is received in terms of these administrative fees for these Class 1 Violations. There is no certainty as to what the dollar value will be associated with this but have estimated between \$900,000 and \$1.1 million dollars to be received in revenue stated Mr. Baker. The department had hoped that civil penalties would prove to be a revenue generator but year to date it has costs lots of aggravation for which the department has received nominal amounts of money. Hopefully this administrative procedure will not fall in the same ranks but in any event the 18 new positions will be funded commented Ms. Baker. *will*

On a going forward bases there were 3 other changes that Ms. Baker brought to the attention of the Commission. The I&E Division received 3 new positions principally for the television production end of thing. The television magazine has been doing great but putting pressure on the people who have been doing it and have been working long hours to get it produced. A couple of new people have been hired and a individual to assist with merchandising to assist revenue to that section has been hired. Another major change is the budget includes 4 new positions for alligator management in the Fur and Refuge Division. All things considered, it will be tight and the department is anticipating in this coming year another revenue problem expecting approximately \$2.1 million dollars short advised Ms. Baker. Meetings have already been held with Division Chiefs to accommodate this shortfall and the department has no intention of laying off people but feels compelled because of the problem with Rockefeller funding that the department should act pro-actively to handle the situation and not be the victim of whoever spends it first gets it. This is a very poor management technique. The department has met with its people and outlined that there is approximately \$2.1 million dollars that is being sought and looking for creative solutions and commitment from *5*

individuals as to how to resolve this. There is a meeting next week to hopefully wrap this up advised Ms. Baker.

Mr. Jenkins asked Ms. Baker about the budgeted expenditures and if he was correct that \$38.7 million dollars was budgeted and \$34.8 was spent and this year \$38 million is being budgeted. Ms. Baker stated that this was correct. Mr. Jenkins also asked about the actual for Seafood Promotion which about doubled and wanted to know why they are re-budgeting \$700,000. Ms. Baker answered that they had budgeted \$607,000 and only spent \$483,000 and re-budgeting \$700,000 for various promotional activities that they have and are under the jurisdiction of the Seafood Promotion Board. Mr. Jenkins asked about shell dredging income for next year and why it was not in the budget. Mr. Baker advised that there is \$700,000 in the budget and explained that conservative estimates have been done and she had anticipated that shell dredging would be out the window in the near future so the 3 year forecasting horizon for shell dredging showed it going away at the termination of the contracts which are September 26, 1991. Knowing this and knowing that the mineral is a fixed mineral and because the dredging companies probably would not be keeping up their equipment as well there would be more down time, etc. Ms. Baker projected a decrease revenue. For this coming year \$1.2 million dollars was projected in shell income. The department sponsored a bill to swap that income so that the General Fund would be the recipient of these monies and in return the department would receive a certain amount of General Fund money, dollar for dollar. The department felt that this would assist in eliminating the conflict of interest that it has in managing wildlife resources but yet participating in the regulation of an industry which has potentially disastrous impacts for fish and wildlife. The department had a bill introduced that got through both committees but it could not be gotten off the Senate Floor for final approval so it died. In any event, in the budget the General Fund had swapped out \$1.2 million dollars but as a result of 2 things: 1) the fact that shell permits were disallowed in the lake because the Department of Environmental Quality denied their Water Quality Permits the bulk of the income from shell revenue went away immediately, 2) leaving the department not contributing anything to the treasury but obligated to get some General Fund money back. The Budget Office did not like this and reduced the amount of General Fund money that the department is to receive by the amount of the reduction of shell dredging income. The department will be getting approximately \$700,000 in shell income from the central coast area but in addition to this the department will be getting General Fund money to support the Aquatic Weed Program and Law Enforcement. Mr. Jenkins asked about the shell mitigation that is owned. Ms. Baker advised that Mr. Puckett, Ms. Kirkpatrick and Mr. DeJohn out of the Attorney General's office and the Governor's and herself will be meeting next week to talk about shell mitigation. Mr. Jenkins stated that they had better talk fast, they are hauling all those shells away. Ms. Baker stated that Secretary Van Sickle, Mr. Puckett, Mr. Kasprzak and herself have discussed this and talked about mitigation being made with limestone rather than reef shell or clam

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shell that way it would not be construed as "blood money". If a like amount of limestone can be obtained, it is available, the companies cannot say this is already sold for contract and feel that this is a viable position for the department to take. Mr. Puckett advised that the meeting next week will not be on shell mitigation but it is related to shells. Mr. Puckett stated that he has been working with the people on the shell mitigation. Mr. Jenkins asked how much was owed in terms of dollars. Mr. Puckett stated that if you went back to 1982 you would be looking at 300,000 cubic yards. Mr. Jenkins advised that 300,000 cubic yards market value would be about \$5 million dollars. Mr. Puckett advised that this was another issue and he was not going to lead the Commission to believe that the department may be able to collect dollars. Dr. Hines commented that ~~the~~ all the roads on the wildlife management areas need shell. Mr. McCall asked if they had that much shell in the stockpile. Ms. Baker stated that she was talking with the shell companies and they had 2 stockpiles set aside which were committed for highway construction on Highway 90 down in eastern Louisiana and is sure it has been used because they are not dredging anymore. Ms. Baker commented that the budget essentially year to year is standstill with the ~~acceptance~~ of the new law enforcement agents, the three positions in I&E and the 4 positions in Fur and Refuge.

Ms. Baker stated as a additional topic the Muzzleloader Licenses for last year were closed out and there were 3,791 licenses sold with Avoyelles, Caddo, East Baton Rouge, Franklin, Jefferson, Livingston, Morehouse, Richland, Tangipahoa and West Baton Rouge being the parishes with the most sales.

of On the sale of the properties in New Orleans Ms. Baker informed the Commission that the 2 properties were up for sale on the 26th of July. Several people from the department went to participate. The parking garage sold for \$220,000 and the main building did not sale. There was a great deal of interest in how much asbestos was in the building, the department did not have a good answer and there were no bids offered on that building. Ms. Baker has met with Facility Planning and is meeting next Friday an asbestos abatement company to evaluate what the cost of abatement will be and at that time will look to see if modification is required in the appraisal value. The building will be put up for sale again but the department will not go back through the Sheriff's office and believes it will take sealed bids advised Ms. Baker. Mr. Jones asked if not the original thinking was to take a bid on the parking, a bid on the building and take both. Ms. Baker stated it was. Mr. Jones asked now that a bid has been accepted on the parking lot has the value on the building been reduced by removing the parking lot from it. Ms. Baker answered that it could be done either way and at the time the sale went down she had talked with Secretary Van Sickle and Deputy Secretary McInnis and it was felt that a bird in the hand was better than none and the individual who purchased the parking garage if someone wanted to buy it back from him that is always a possibility. Chairman Pol asked why sealed bids instead of open bids. Ms. Baker answered to simplify the

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process and hopefully expedite it because there was not much of a response from the public auction. Dr. Hines asked if we were going to sell the building as asbestos clean. Ms. Baker answered no, just wants to get a fair estimate of what removal would cost and then you identify do you reduce you minimum sale value or not based on this information. The asbestos in the building is relatively well contained and the individuals that Ms. Baker is going to New Orleans with next Friday are experts in this and have done it at several other state properties. Talking with them over the telephone Ms. Baker stated that you are talking about \$15,000 - \$30,000 to have this asbestos removed. Concluding, Ms. Baker advised that she will report back to the Commission when the information on the New Orleans property is forth~~com~~ing.

Chairman Pol commented that before getting into the Secretary's Report he would like to ask Mr. Puckett a question and stated that the Commission has been trying to get a decision out of Mr. Puckett about the representation of the attorney for the Commission and when will he be ready to make a report. Mr. Puckett advised that he has a draft that he is prepared to give to the Commission and did bring copies with him. Mr. Puckett has not been able to share this draft with Secretary Van Sickle yet but has shared it with Deputy Secretary McInnis. Mr. Puckett recommended that the Commissioners review the draft and it be discussed at a later meeting. Chairman Pol stated that he agrees with him.

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At Friday's meeting the **Secretary's Report to the Commission and Legislative Recap** was presented by Deputy Secretary McInnis. Deputy Secretary McInnis asked Dr. Clark to give a recap on the reorganization that took place in the Office of Fisheries. A handout was given to the Commissioners. Dr. Clark advised that the handout was a copy of a memo that was sent to each member of the Office of Fisheries indicating the reorganization that took place and it is basically a 2 page memo and 3 pages of organizational charts representing the new organization in the Office of Fisheries. The principle change is that a new division has been created called the Research Division. One of the first things that happened after Dr. Clark became the Assistant Secretary, Office of Fisheries, was that the process began immediately working on fishery management plans. One of Dr. Clark's goals as a manager is to try and get to problems before they become problems. There are around 10 fishery management plans due out in the Office of Fisheries in about the next 12 to 18 months. What Dr. Clark did when he looked at the organizational plan was to create the Research Division ~~cause~~ form should follow function and the function of the Office of Fisheries is to provide good fisheries management. The bases of good fisheries management is good science and good scientific analysis. There were scientists in the Office of Fisheries but in the Inland Fisheries Division and the Marine Fisheries Division they often did not ~~get~~ communicate and had separate skills. Also they were working on other problems associated with Inland Fisheries and Marine Fisheries and were not focused on science in some cases. The director of the research in the Inland Fisheries Division was also supervising a lot of people

on a day to day management in the field and this kept them from being focused on their function which is research so a research division was created stated Dr. Clark. The other characteristics of change was linear management that had developed over the years. The linear authority was done away with such that the administrator is in charge of the major programmatic elements. The Research Division was created just after the first of the year and working with the new budget to make sure that the budget reflects the new divisions concluded Dr. Clark and asked for questions.

Deputy McInnis stated that this is a recap of what has taken place and had begun some time ago. Because of discussions that have taken place at some of the Commission meeting and at the legislature as well the department wanted to make sure that there was a recap of what had taken place.

Deputy McInnis advised that the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA) conference will be hosted by Louisiana this year in New Orleans, Louisiana. The conference will start September 7th and goes through Wednesday September 12th. The Commission meeting in September will be in New Orleans so as to give the Commissioners an opportunity to interact with people coming in for the IAFWA and Deputy McInnis urged the Commissioners to attend if possible.

The next item on the Secretary's report was the Commissioners were invited to join the department on August 15th at Pointe-au-Chien for a dedication on the ground. This is a cooperative project with another agency and Fur and Refuge Division will be coordinating the activities. Deputy Secretary stated that if the Commissioners had an opportunity to join them down there he hopes they do so.

Deputy McInnis advised that following right behind this on August 20th the Game Division will be hosting a dedication at Spring Bayou starting at 10:00 a.m. Spring Bayou is in the Avoyelles areas stated Deputy Secretary McInnis.

On August 27th in New Orleans in conjunction with the President's Domestic Policy Council there will be hearings held in the New Orleans area. There will be 3 hearings held nationwide and Louisiana is very fortunate that New Orleans was chosen as one of the sites. This hearing will involve 5 groups of panels that will present testimony to the Domestic Policy Council involving the individual that has been appointed by the President to head this up who will be in New Orleans at this time. The 5 panels are congressional, local and state government, industry, conservation groups and scientific community. This is a well rounded group that will be addressing a lot of issues that will interact with the "no net loss" policy of the President stated Mr. McInnis.

The next meeting that will be held is one that is going to be of a much more controversial nature stated Deputy Secretary McInnis. On August 30th the Gulf Council in New Orleans and Lafayette will be holding hearings to take public testimony on what has been

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referred to as the "FEDS" regulation, fish excluder device. This is a very controversial and deal with the bycatch issue which is something of serious concern to the shrimp industry as well as finfish and reef fish industry. In an effort to come up with a long range viable plan that will enable of these fisheries to continue they are coming up with some proposals advised Deputy Secretary McInnis. There were some 60 proposals submitted and only one of which met the criteria that was established by the Gulf council, men. The proposal is very drastic and Deputy Secretary McInnis gave a sampling. Basically what the proposal will require is a closure from the beach out from May 1 to July 31 for shrimping Gulf wide. It will require a modified excluder device being the fish excluder device (FED) which will be required on each offshore net to be in placed by January 1, 1993, which has not yet been developed, but which will be developed and will have to provide for at least a 50 percent bycatch reduction from where they are today. This is going to have a lot of impact on a lot of people and these meetings are being held across the Gulf. The Gulf Council will be in Louisiana on August 30th and then meet on September 17-20 in New Orleans, Louisiana, to follow up on information taken here on different proposals. The department has taken an active role in looking into this situation and will be presenting some alternatives that is felt will reach some of the same end results in a slightly different time frame advised Deputy Secretary McInnis. Two other things that this addresses is that it would require a 2 fish recreational limit on ~~reef fish~~ (snapper) and it would also limit the directive fishery quota on ~~reef fish~~ to 1 million pounds Gulf wide stated Deputy Secretary McInnis. red snapper red snapper

Deputy Secretary McInnis advised that one thing that has been done in the last 3 or 4 months in and about the legislative session is to have each of the department's divisions come up with a long range operational plan such as Dr. Clark reported on. The department has gone a step farther to work with the individual employee to make certain that he understands what his job responsibilities are and to bring him into the picture more and how he fits into the big picture of what his division is doing. Next month the department is hoping to begin presenting this information to the Commissioners starting with the Information and Education Section and the Game Section.

Another item of interest that Deputy Secretary McInnis brought up was the Price Lake Project dedication at Rockefeller in October. Further information will be given at the next Commission meeting. This is a Ducks Unlimited cooperative project with the department and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Deputy Secretary McInnis reported that he was pleased to joint Mr. Hugh Bateman in going to the Range Slough project. For someone who has been involved in helping support this with his own time and money Deputy Secretary McInnis commented that to see the good and the progress that has been made with the dollars that Louisiana has contributed is wonderful. This project is a cooperative agreement with the local landowners, the local government, Ducks Unlimited

Canada, Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and Louisiana. Everyone got together and worked together to establish the Range Slough pool as something that will be a water maintained project. This is a very productive marsh and is a project that Louisiana is very proud to participate in stated Deputy Secretary McInnis.

Next, Deputy Secretary presented the recommendations for the Deer Season Advisory Group which the Commissioners had requested from the department as possible participants. Representation will be from the Commission, legislature, landowners, dog hunters and still hunters and each of these categories have several people that the department is suggesting that the Commission consider. It is the Commission's choice pointed out Deputy Secretary McInnis.

Deputy Secretary McInnis brought the Commissioners up-to-date on a few changes in the Enforcement Division. In Region III, Alexandria area, Major Tracy Lucky retired and being replaced by Mr. John Belton.

The dedication of the trail in the Joyce Wildlife Management Area took place and everyone was very pleased with the results of the work that was done over there commented Deputy Secretary McInnis and advised that if anyone has an opportunity to go over there they will enjoy walking through the area.

A new concrete boat ramp has been completed at Pomme-de-Terre Wildlife Management Area and was done with Wallop-Breaux funds and part of one of the DU MARSH projects and will be available to both hunters, fishermen, canoeing and sightseers.

There has been about 1,500 prints sold this year for the 1990-91 Duck Stamp program. Mr. Elton Louviere is the artist and the print is of green-winged. The publisher is pleased with the sales and being a second year no one anticipated it would maintain the level it has. Representative Martin who attended the meeting yesterday authored the bill that extended the requirement that artists for the duck stamp program competition continue to be from Louisiana only but did modify it to say that if they had been a former resident they would be eligible to participate advised Deputy Secretary McInnis.

The Game Division has initiated plans to enter into the Forest Stewardship program in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the Office of Forestry. There is a new source of money coming in assisting private landowners for developing forest and wildlife services. A perspective list of land acquisition tracts is being developed by the Game Division and hoping that the bond sale scheduled to take place in the 3rd quarter will go through and that the dollars put into the Capital Outlay program will be available for the department at that time.

Completing the Secretary's report Deputy Secretary McInnis gave the legislative recap and pointed out that most of the bills unless

they create new law have a very small effect on the change of the existing law.

One bill dealt with the trawl door sizes recommended by the Shrimp Task Force. Because the bill has gone into effect so quickly they have had a difficult time, according to the industry representatives, in acquiring the correct size doors.

Another bill deals with commercial gear license and states that in Louisiana a commercial gear license cannot be sold to an individual who comes from another state who could not buy that same license in his home state. This bill was authored by Representative Randy Roach and goes into effect September of this year but the department's license year goes from January 1 and will only affect those licenses sold towards the end of the year. (Will have an impact next year.)

Along the same line Representative Sammy Theriot passed a bill to increase an out-of-state commercial fishing license from \$200 to \$400.

At this point Deputy Secretary McInnis recommended that in an effort to be real brief that the Commissioners review these bills on their own and if they have a particular bill they would like to discuss or if there is one that is not on the list that they would like to know about Deputy Secretary McInnis would be happy to address it with them.

Mr. Jenkins stated on page 9 Senator Chabert's bill at the bottom of the page, Act 621, does this move that line back in to where it was. Deputy Secretary McInnis stated that it puts the line exactly back ~~when~~ it was changed from last year and gives the powerline as the inside, outside line which LPL begged them not to do. On the other end at Barataria it uses the light which was ~~which~~ we had on the west side, the sea buoy all the way down behind the fort virtually and then back out to Ft. Livingston. Mr. Jenkins stated that the old problems have been recreated.

Deputy Secretary McInnis pointed out another bill dealing with the maricultural permit in the Lafourche area has been extended for additional 2 years. This is HB 840 by Representative Glover and has been signed (Act 299).

A bill was passed that cleared up the problem in the Breton-Chandeleur Sound area where there has been land erosion and the same type problem with inside, outside waters. The line was clarified and make it simpler to see by using land points and although it did have some effects on the fishery over there, it is something that will be easier understood and easier for the department to enforce.

Representative Roach had several bills to help the department with the trout and red fish situation. Act 742 and Act 743, first of which addresses possession limits and are now a Class 2 violation and Act 743 amends the same section of the law but in a different

paragraph providing for size limits and penalties, where before there was no penalty for an undersized trout or red fish you now have a \$25 per fish assessment criminal penalty on the undersized fish as well as the oversized fish.

Chairman Pol at this point in the meeting suggested that all the Commissioners read the legislative recap and if they have any questions contact Deputy Secretary McInnis.

The **November Meeting Dates** were set at Friday's meeting. The dates for the meeting were set for November 1-2, 1990 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Wildlife and Fisheries headquarters building on Quail Drive.

There being no other business at Friday's meeting Chairman Pol called for a motion for adjournment of the August Commission meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

VVS:sb

Aquatic Education Achievements

Aquatic Education is a 75% federally funded 25% state funded education program using funds available from the Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid in Sports Fish Restoration Act as expanded by the Wallop-Breaux Amendment. The Wallop-Breaux amendment permits states to use up to 10% of its Wallop-Breaux funds for education. Aquatic Education was developed to increase the sport fishing interest and knowledge of our state fishermen/women. The program includes methods of fishing, environmental and ethical concerns, the biology, conservation and management of our sport fisheries resources. The 25% State match is generated through In-Kind match of volunteer time. Every hour of documented time a volunteer spends on the program is equivalent to eleven dollars of state funds.

Program began November 1988, no one was assigned to the program during first five months. Program coordinator appointed April 1989.

From April till June 1989 time was spent reviewing other states programs, developing a program for use in Louisiana, writing project narrative for federal aid funding and contacting potential volunteers.

July 1989 program began its first year.

During the year from July 1, 1989 till June 30, 1990. The following was accomplished.

- Developed a "How To" guide to aid volunteers in conducting fishing clinics.
- Aided La. Conservationist with development of Fresh and Saltwater sport Fishing posters.
- Obtained 2500 reprints of fish posters for use by volunteers
- Developed and printed information brochure on Aquatic Education Program.
- Developed and printed the Identification Guide to Common Sport Fish of Louisiana.
- Conducted approximately 25 instructor workshops with church groups, youth organizations and sportsman clubs. Over 200 volunteers were trained as clinic instructors.
- Assisted with Project WILD/Aquatic WILD facilitator and teacher workshops.
- Developed Instructor and Student manual, to be used in the public and private schools, to teach Aquatic Education. Manuals will be available before September, 1990.
- Incorporated LSU Sea Grant "Wild Louisiana" Education Programs into Aquatic Education Program. Program centers on our coastal marshes and on Red Fish Management. Video tapes are provided with the program.
- Began development of Education Center in Woodworth.
Obtained 18 acres of land and three building from Office of Forestry through a land swap. Education Center will consist of a big bore rifle range, fishing pond and the buildings will be converted into a facility that will be used to conduct Aquatic and Hunter Education workshops for educators and volunteers. The facilities will also be used to conduct hunter education or aquatic education classes for the public. The main building will contain a meeting room, kitchen, dining area, dormitory and bath facilities. The additional two buildings will be used as a staff dorm. and workshop/storage. Renovation on the facility will begin once Facility Planning approves the architects renovations. The Louisiana National Guard will do the major portion of the range construction and building renovations.

Facility will be funded through a joint Federal Aid project using Hunter Education and Aquatic Education funds. The States matching funds will be In-Kind match using the value of the buildings and the land.

- Sponsored 2 fishing clinics for children in the Adaptive P.E. (handicap) program in Beauregard and Acadia parishes.
- Became involved with ALBC (Association of Louisiana Bass Clubs) Youth Fishing Tournament as a co-sponsor. Nine of these tournaments were conducted state-wide on the Saturday of the two Free Fishing Days. About 1800 youngsters participated.
- Sponsored or co-sponsored 13 fishing clinics during National Fishing Week. Two of which were co-sponsored by the U.S Forest Service.
- Had approximately 1500 individuals attend fishing clinics during Free Fishing Days.

Largest clinic was conducted in Bossier Parish at Cypress/Black Lake Recreation Area. This clinic was co-sponsored with the Bossier City First Baptist Church, Bossier City Recreation Department, and Cypress/Black Lake Recreation Commission. At this clinic we had 450 kids and 200 adults attend with 65 trained adult volunteers conducting or assisting with educational classes.

For the upcoming year we plan on concentrating our efforts on the school program. Once the Instructors and Student manuals are in hand we will begin to schedule workshops for educators and school administrators on the middle school level.

There are several publications and handouts that we hope to develop.

- revised fish I.D. publication (make smaller and incorporate better graphics)
- develop paper ruler with minimum size restrictions for salt and fresh water fish marked. Ruler will have adhesive back and could be placed on boat, tackle box, or Ice chest.
- develop a student activity publication for use by teachers in grades K-5 to stimulate interest in sport fishing.
- reprint several publications currently in library that relate to sport fishing.

Plan to conduct a fishing clinic for youngsters in most of our major metropolitan areas of the state during National Fishing Week of 1991. Success of this will depend on volunteers being available.

Submitted by:

Paul Jackson
Aquatic Education Coordinator
August 8, 1990